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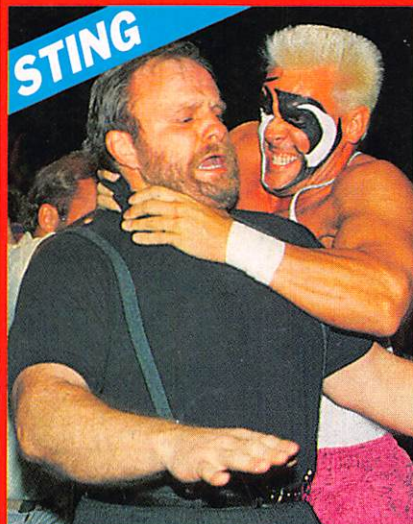
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# Wrestling

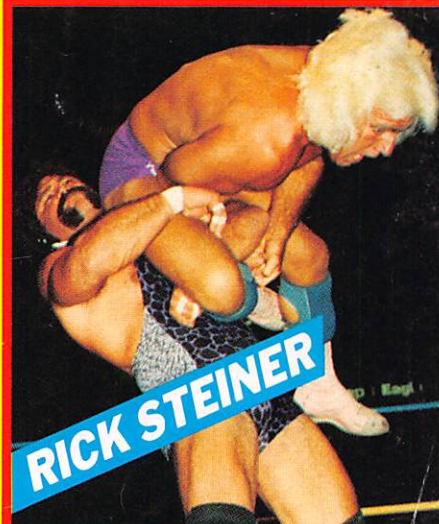
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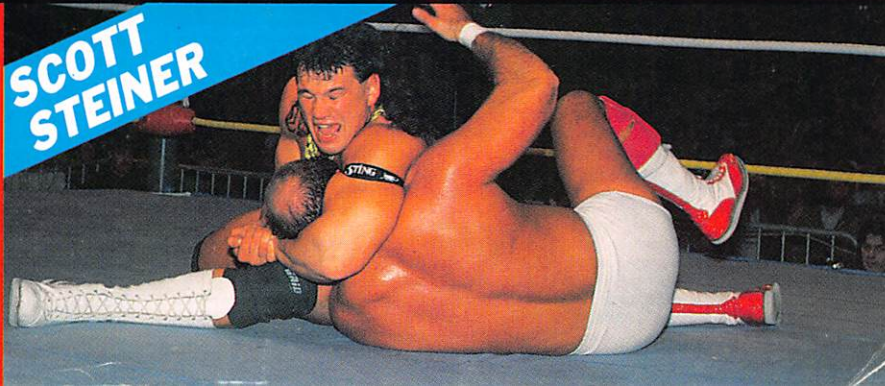
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INSIDE

# Wrestling

## CONTENTS/SEPTEMBER 1990

- 4 **SINCERELY YOURS**  
Stinging Retribution; Sorry Subs; Lawding Lawler
- 6 **EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK** by Stu Saks  
The real reason behind Jack Tunney's strange pronouncement
- 8 **BEHIND THE DRESSING ROOM DOOR** by David Rosenbaum  
Muta rebounds while Saito swoons
- 10 **ON THE ROAD** with Craig Peters  
The power of positive thinking buoys Sting
- 12 **NAMES MAKIN' NEWS** by Bill Apter  
All the latest news as of press time
- 14 **THE INSIDER** by Eddie Ellner  
Exposing hypocrisy at the highest level of the WWF
- 16 **ON ASSIGNMENT** by Liz Hunter  
Liz has a lot to say about the women in Texas
- 18 **WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**  
Updates on four major mat stars
- 19 **CAPSULE PROFILE #170**  
A mini-biography plus pinup of Tully Blanchard
- 22 **NEWS FROM THE WRESTLING CAPITALS**  
Eyewitness coverage of the month's major matches
- 24 **MATT BROCK'S PLAIN SPEAKING**  
Of Capital Combat and county fairs
- 27 **THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS—ON A FAST TRACK TO DOOM!**  
The U.S. title isn't enough to satisfy Jim Cornette
- 30 **IS BEING POPULAR ENOUGH FOR HACKSAW DUGGAN?**  
He has his fans, but he also has a long string of defeats
- 32 **FIGHTING FIRE WITH FIRE:**  
**THE AWESOME FOURSOME—COMMITTED TO DESTROYING THE HORSEMEN**  
The gang-ups and sneak-attacks may soon be over
- 34 **HULK HOGAN—BITTER EX-CHAMPION**  
The "Hulkster" is worlds away from the glory he once knew
- 36 **JUNKYARD DOG: "I'VE STILL GOT A LOT OF BITE IN MY BARK!"**  
The returning NWA star tell all in this "Hotseat" interview
- 40 **CHRIS ADAMS' EX-WIFE VOWS:**  
**"I'LL DO ANYTHING TO HELP STEVE AUSTIN DESTROY MY EX-HUSBAND!"**  
And hell hath no fury like a woman scorned!
- 44 **ONE ON ONE**  
Jerry Lawler vs. Jimmy Valiant
- 64 **OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS**  
Top 15 rankings in seven important categories
- 65 **INSIDE WRESTLING ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS**  
The most comprehensive championship directory available anywhere
- 66 **BLAST FROM THE PAST**  
This month in wrestling history

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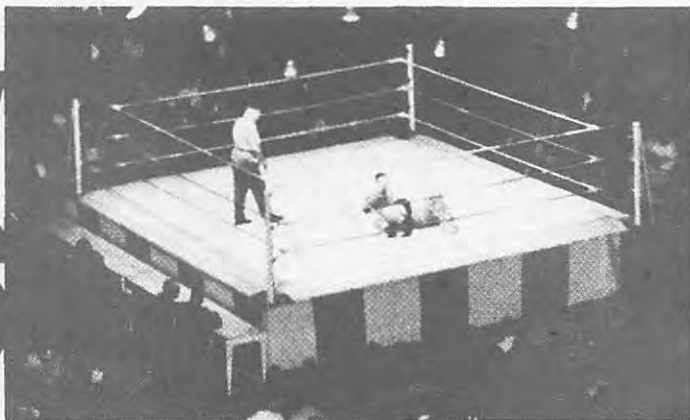
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# SINCERELY YOURS

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## STINGING RETRIBUTION

I've rarely been so moved as I was after reading the "Hotseat" interview with Sting in the July 1990 issue. This heroic young man has been through so much during the past few months that I was wondering if he would ever find it within himself to return to the ring. Thankfully, the way Sting talked, he seemed optimistic that he would be back in action very soon.



The Horsemen's brutal treatment of Sting has readers Mariel Williams and Tom Fox anxious for the "Stinger's" return.

I only hope that Sting manages to hurt Ric Flair and the rest of The Four Horsemen as much as they've hurt him. The way I feel about it, Sting would be justified in doing anything within his power to cripple Flair and making sure this totally unworthy champion never enters a wrestling ring again.

I just can't wait for Sting to get back in action!

MARIEL WILLIAMS  
Atlanta

What are The Four Horsemen afraid of? Why must they threaten and beat up wrestlers who challenge them for their title belts?

First it was Sting, and then it was Lex Luger. Who will be next? Both Sting and Luger were lucky to escape with their lives. The next guy may not be as lucky. What are the Horsemen trying to prove?

I was one of the unfortunate fans

taken for suckers by the Horsemen. I honestly believed that they were going to wrestle by the rules, but they soon proved me—and so many others—wrong. I do believe, though, that the Horsemen will get their just desserts, whether from Sting, Luger, The Rock 'n' Roll Express, or even a combination of wrestlers.

Four Horsemen, your days are numbered!

TOM FOX  
Buffalo, NY

## POWER TEAM

I think Hulk Hogan and The Ultimate Warrior reforming their friendship is a fantastic idea. After reading the article in the July 1990 issue ("Our Urgent Plea To Hulk Hogan & Ultimate Warrior: Team Up And Clean Up The WWF"), I can only agree wholeheartedly. Imagine what a powerful force Hogan and the Warrior would be together!

There's no way that wrestlers like Rick Rude, Curt Hennig, Randy Savage, or even Earthquake could stand up to this kind of awesome power. Unfortunately, I don't think it's ever going to happen. The Warrior is just too busy defending his WWF World title, and that seems to be all he's concerned about.

But a Hogan-Warrior tandem would clean up the federation like no other team before them. Hogan and Savage were once called The Megapowers. I think Hogan and Warrior would have to be dubbed The Ultrapowers. No one would ever touch them!

SAM WENTWORTH  
Altoona, PA

## SORRY SUBS

I recently attended an NWA card in my hometown. My reason for writing this letter is to protest what I saw.

The card was billed as having two tag team main events, featuring The Freebirds vs. The Rock 'n' Roll Express, plus The Dynamic Dudes vs. The Wild Samoans.

The problem I had was that, without notice, the NWA substituted preliminary wrestlers in both main events!





Jim Garvin chinlocks Rick Morton. When reader Robert Silby went to see a Freebirds-Rock 'n' Roll Express match, he was disappointed because a preliminary wrestler substituted for one of the combatants.

This is not the first time this has happened. Even at the big pay-per-view event, "Wrestle War '90," there was a masked wrestler substituting for one of The Skyscrapers in the street fight against The Road Warriors.

These are only a couple of examples of the promotion not following through with advertised stars in important matches. This cheats the fans who pay to see the top names of the NWA.

ROBERT SILBY  
Lynchburg, VA

### **OVERRATED EARTHQUAKE**

I can't believe your magazine would devote four pages of the July '90 issue to an article on that fat slob Earthquake ("Earthquake Aftershock! How One Wrestler Is Shaking Up The WWF"). I don't think that Earthquake would ever have crippled *anyone* if wasn't for the relaxed rules that WWF President Jack Tunney fails to enforce.

Earthquake has used his huge "earthquake" splash to send wrestlers

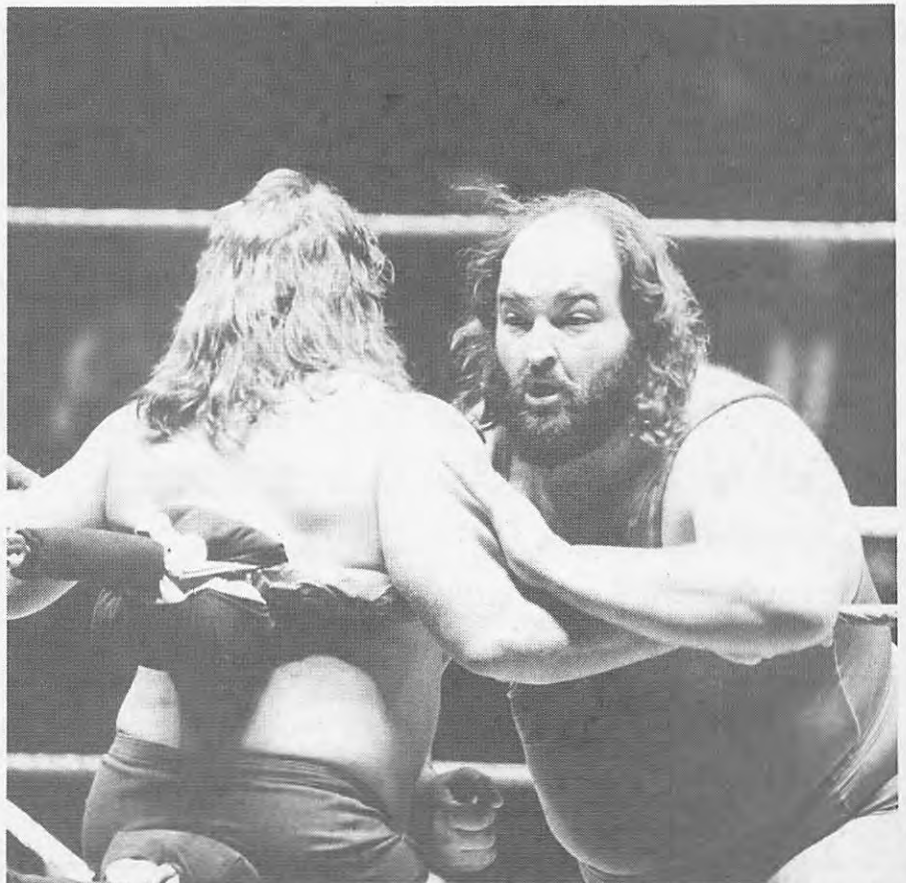
like Ron Garvin, Jerry Monti, and Hercules out of the ring on stretchers. But Earthquake had already built up a reputation as a crippler by attacking the defeated foes of Dino Bravo after Bravo's matches were over. And what did Tunney do about this serious crisis of his wrestlers being injured? Nothing!

If Earthquake wasn't allowed to splash his opponents three or four times after he has pinned them, absolutely no one would have been hurt. I can't blame Earthquake or his manager, Jimmy Hart, for this problem. It's that do-nothing Tunney that's responsible for the broken bodies of some good men.

Let's hope Hacksaw Duggan makes good on his promise of driving Earthquake out of the WWF. While he's at it, he should conk Tunney over the head with his 2 x 4—just to knock some sense into him!

TIM MORRIS  
Youngstown, OH

*(Continued on page 46)*



Earthquake (against Hacksaw Duggan) is overly destructive and should have been banned a long time ago, in the opinion of reader Tim Morris.



# EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Stu  
Saks

Editor-in-Chief

Jack Tunney certainly didn't make any friends with his post-WrestleMania VI announcement that there would be no Hulk Hogan-Ultimate Warrior rematch. Could you imagine the president of the world's largest wrestling organization publicly stating that he wouldn't allow these men to wrestle again because they had "battled past the point of exhaustion" and "beyond the threshold of pain" in their first encounter?

Heaven forbid. This is professional wrestling. We wouldn't want anybody to get tired or hurt.

Tunney has surely been around this sport too long to believe what he was saying. Certainly nobody else did. There had to be another reason why this match wouldn't be made.

Money? Undoubtedly. The WWF would obviously stand to make a mint on a rematch—say, at SummerSlam. So if the federation was putting the kibosh on the bout, they must have had bigger things in mind—say, WrestleMania VII.

Inside Wrestling and its sister magazine, The Wrestler, set out to learn the true story behind the "Non-Match of the Century," and the results, reported by Senior Writer David Rosenbaum in the September edition of The Wrestler, will shock you.

Rosenbaum learned that there is a secret clause in The Ultimate Warrior's contract that allows him to designate three opponents against whom he could refuse to wrestle. Warrior invoked his privilege after his WrestleMania VI triumph over Hogan. Sure enough, Hogan's name was one of the three on the list.

Tunney made himself sound like a fool to protect the honor of his federation's champion. I'm beginning to wonder if The Ultimate Warrior is worth it.

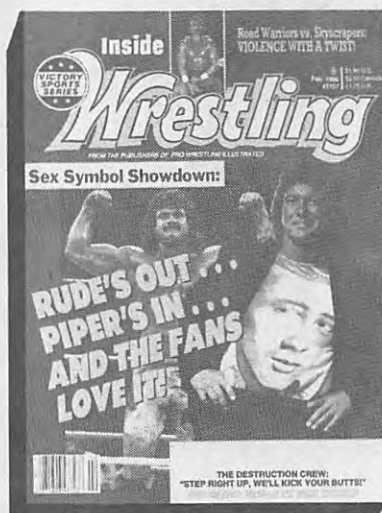


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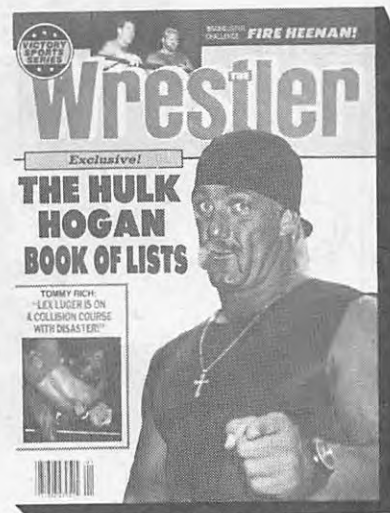
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# TOP SECRET

## Behind the Dressing Room Door

by **David  
Rosenbaum**

**W**RESTLING NEWS FROM Japan often travels slowly, but the impact of this report had lasting value: The Great Muta and Masa Chono won the International Wrestling Grand Prix tag team title from Mr. Saito and Shinya Hashimoto on April 27 in Tokyo Bay, Japan. I have two points to make:

- Mr. Saito has hit rock-bottom. The positive effects of his change from rulebreaker to fan favorite were only briefly felt. He quickly won—and lost—the AWA World title, and now he's done the same with the IWGP tag title.

- The Great Muta, once considered the hottest young star in wrestling, seems to be back on the right track after a long period of bad wrestling.

Muta hit rock-bottom back in early December at Starrcade '89, when he was shut out in the "Iron Man" competition against Ric Flair, Lex Luger, and Sting. He had failed—several times—to win the NWA World title from Flair, and it seemed as if his vast martial arts repertoire would get him nowhere.

Give him credit. Muta, realizing that his career was in trouble, returned to his roots. Back in Japan, where he is apparently more comfortable, Muta got back to basics and worked on his game.

"I always said he had the tools to be a great one," said Gary Hart, Muta's manager in the NWA. "He comes from great blood and he's got a lot of heart. You look at some of the greatest athletes of all time, and they've all had setbacks at one time or another. I guarantee that Muta will be NWA World champion some day."

Hart, obviously, still has high  
(Continued on page 50)



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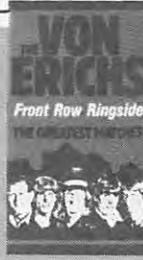


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**H**OSPITALS ARE ON my mind a lot lately. My uncle recently spent a lot of time in a Florida hospital; he never came out. My dad recently spent two weeks in a New York hospital; he's home now and itching to get back to the golf course, where he belongs.

I've been lucky. I've never been a patient in a hospital. But whenever I imagine myself in that position, I also imagine myself going stir crazy. Four dingy walls, the smell of disinfectant, and an intravenous tube in my arm, maybe a tube up my nose or in my chest, maybe a patient in the next bed who does nothing but moan and scream all day long.

I'm sure I would find it awfully tough to keep a positive attitude in that sort of situation. I bet that if you think about it a bit, you probably feel the same way.

So how *does* one keep thinking positive thoughts?

"It's not easy," says Sting, who suffered a severe knee injury on February 6 and has spent more days in hospital beds and on the sidelines in 1990 than he cares to count. "And believe me, keeping a positive attitude is one of the most important aspects of recuperation."

Indeed. Recent studies in the medical and psychological fields have indicated a direct link between healing and positive thinking. "Imaging therapy," for example, in which the patient performs sophisticated imagination exercises designed to stimulate the body's immune system, has proven to be a valuable tool in helping patients take control of their own healing processes.

Sometimes, though, just knowing that there's somebody out there who cares can make all the difference in the world.

"Look over here," Sting said, leading me to one corner of his living room. "Check this out."

I saw boxes. Eleven boxes, the big plastic kind that have "U.S. POSTAL SERVICE" stamped on the side.

"There must be—man, there must be at least 10,000 pieces of mail here!" I exclaimed.

"Probably closer to about 35,000 or so," Sting said. "I figure each box holds about three or four thousand cards and letters. And that's not counting *these*."

Sting led me into his den, where a desk was piled high with mail. About eight or nine piles of small packages were stacked next to the desk.

"It's absolutely amazing," Sting enthused. "I mean, I know I have fans, but look at this stuff! You know, it's one thing to cheer a guy while you're at the matches. I mean, it's a night out and all, and you're cheering *all* your favorites. But to actually go to a store and buy a card and take it home and write a note in it and address the envelope and get a stamp and take it to the mailbox . . . well, don't

## ON THE ROAD

with  
CRAIG PETERS

underestimate that and say it's not a big deal, because it is."

Sting led me back into the living room. He reached into one of the boxes and grabbed a handful of mail.

"Let's look at a few of these, I'll show you," he said as he sat down and opened a card. "Here, here's one signed by an entire junior high school class in Ohio. Imagine that! Not only does the kid go through all the hassle of getting a card, he brings it into school and gets all his friends to sign it, too!"

Sting opened another card and smiled. There was a photo enclosed of a young girl, about 10 years old or so, and her little brother, who couldn't have been older than two. They both had Sting-style paint on their faces.

"This is great, I just love this kind of stuff," Sting said, laughing. "Look at them, good-looking kids, real cute. *Hahaha!* This is great!"

For a moment, I think Sting forgot I was in the room as he opened card after card, letter after letter, laughing and smiling and feeling good about himself and his fans and wrestling.

The Four Horsemen?  
A million miles away.  
Knee surgery? What knee surgery?

"I've said it before, but I'll never stop saying it: The fans have helped me through these last few months more than any of them will ever know," Sting said. "I wish I could answer all this mail, but I simply can't. I'd never have time to do my physical therapy, much less watch the matches on television, fly to the various arenas, and so on. I mean, just *look* at all this mail. So many letters asking for autographs, photos, you name it. I read and appreciate each piece of mail, but I hope the fans will understand why I can't answer each letter individually. It's like—well, I'm just overwhelmed by their generosity."

But, Sting added, there is a way he plans on repaying the loyalty and kindness of his fans.

"I'm going to return to the ring and win the World title from Ric Flair. And when I do, it'll be in honor of all these magnificent people," Sting said, sweeping his hand toward 35,000 or so cards and letters. "That'll be my gift to all of them."

Now *that's* thinking positive!



Sting



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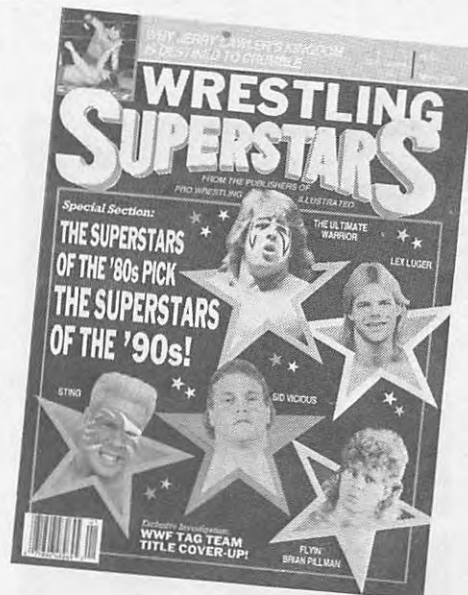
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# NAMES MAKI

**A**S WE WENT to press, NWA U.S. champion **Lex Luger** and former WWF World champion **Hulk Hogan** were both out of action with serious injuries. It was expected that Luger would be back by the time this issue hits the stands, but Hogan is likely to be out of action for up to three months.

Hogan's injury occurred at the La



**HULK HOGAN**

Crosse Center in La Crosse, Wisconsin, on May 15 at a taping for the *WWF Superstars of Wrestling* program. A few minutes after Hogan defeated **Earthquake** due to interference by manager **Jimmy Hart**, Hogan and Hart were being interviewed by **Brother Love**. Hogan was asking where Earthquake was when the 462-pound giant snuck up from behind, smashed Hogan across the back with a chair, and delivered three crushing "earthquake"

splashes.

Hogan suffered serious injuries to his sternum and ribs as a result of the attack, and was taken out of the arena on a stretcher. Key sources have told *Inside Wrestling* that the injuries may even be career-threatening.

"This time, it's really going to be hard for Hogan to come back at full strength," said one insider. "This is as bad as anyone has ever hurt Hogan, and it's much worse than it was in 1986 when **King Kong Bundy** injured his ribs in a sneak-attack. One thing is for sure: It's going to be a while before anyone sees Hogan in a ring again."

Luger's injury was not quite as severe. The "Total Package" had been hospitalized due to a staph infection in his right knee for about two weeks before his steel cage main event against NWA World champion **Ric Flair** at "Capital Combat '90" on May 19 in Washington, D.C. While it was apparent that Luger was not at full strength



**LEX LUGER**

for the match, he still came close to defeating the "Nature Boy" for the title.

Amazingly, outside interference caused a disqualification on Flair. **Four Horsemen** manager **Ole Anderson** somehow gained control of the electronic device used to raise and lower the cage, and Luger's knee was attacked by **Barry Windham**, **Arn Anderson**, and Flair. After the bout, Luger returned to a Washington hospi-



**SCOTT NORTON**

tal for further treatment of the infection.

"This only makes me more determined than ever to take Flair's title," Luger said during his recovery. "My knee is getting better by the day, and I can't wait to get back to action. The Horsemen will pay in blood for what they've done to me."

**Scott "Flash" Norton** was suspended and stripped of the Pacific Northwest championship after a wild tag team match on May 26 in Portland, Oregon. Norton teamed with **Rip Oliver** against **Billy Jack Haynes** and **Brian Adams**, but after Norton was hit with Adams' kendo stick, he



# N' NEWS

Bill Apter  
reporting...



**ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER**

went crazy and beat up eight wrestlers and referee **Sandy Barr**! PNW promoter **Don Owen** said he had no choice but to suspend the former superheavyweight arm-wrestling champion.

"Norton is a fine young man, but he went over the line," said Owen. "He's one of the sport's finest young talents, but what he did almost caused a riot. He'll have a chance to appeal later on. At this time, he's gone from this federation indefinitely."

**Abdullah the Butcher** has left the NWA and is now wrestling in Japan. He's formed a fine tag team with **Ranger Ross**, and the duo recently scored an upset victory over **Giant Baba** and **Kenta Kobashi**... Also wrestling in Japan is LPWA champion **Susan Sexton**, who is feuding with **Harley Saito**... A new Japanese promotion, Megame Super World Sports, will begin presenting cards in the fall. Expected to compete for this new group is veteran superstar **Genichiro Tenryu**.

A misunderstanding between **Kerry**

**Von Erich** and **Percy Pringle** cost the "Modern-Day Warrior" the USWA Texas title on May 25 in Dallas. Von Erich was defending his belt against **Matt Borne** in a lumberjack match. When Borne tossed Von Erich out of the ring toward Percy, who was doing color commentary, Kerry accidentally ripped Pringle's jacket.

A livid Pringle jumped up on the ring apron and started yelling at Kerry. As Von Erich tried to explain that it was an accident, Borne rolled him up for the pin and the title. During a tele-



**PERCY PRINGLE**

vised interview the next day, Von Erich accused Pringle of costing him the championship, but Pringle insisted that Kerry owed him for a new jacket. Kerry countered that wasn't all he'd owe Pringle for, and proceeded to rip the shirt right off him!

"Is everybody around here going crazy?" Von Erich asked after the incident. "I lose the Texas title, and Percy



**"DIAMOND" DALLAS PAGE**

is upset over a dumb jacket. Is there anybody left in the USWA I can count on? It sure doesn't seem that way."

Former **Bad Company** manager **"Diamond" Dallas Page** is looking to return to managing. He has his eye on several prospects in the IWA... What's happening with veteran independent star **Chief Jules Strongbow**? He seems to be wrestling in a much more aggressive style these days... **Buddy Landell** has returned to the NWA.

**Paul E. Dangerously** has also returned to the NWA, and he's purchased the contract of **"Mean" Mark Callous** from **Teddy Long**. Now, the self-described "psycho yuppie" is claiming he'll lead Callous all the way to the NWA World title.

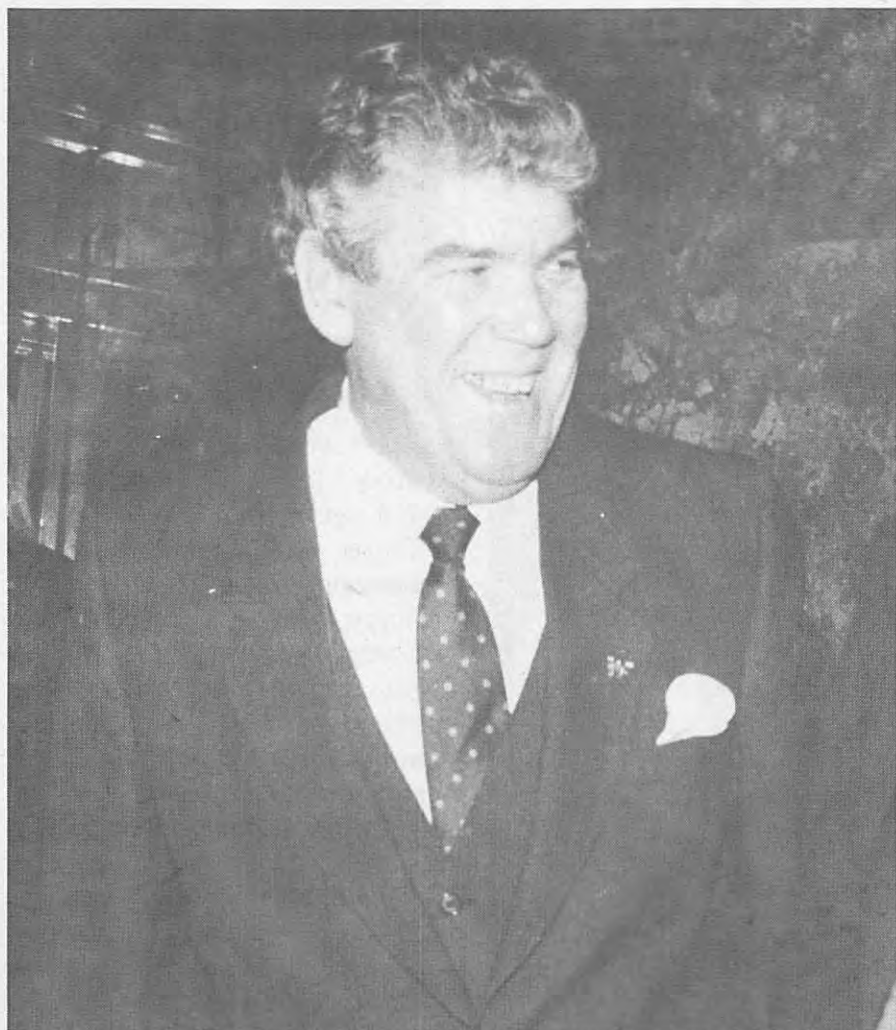
"All Mark needs is a little proper guidance," says Dangerously, who managed **Doug Gilbert** and **Dennis Condrey** to the ICW tag team title before returning to the NWA. "I manage champions everywhere I go, and now I have the biggest guy I've ever managed. With Mark's brawn and my brains, how can we fail?"

That's all for now, fans. See you at the matches!

THE

# INSIDER

By Eddie Ellner



WWF President Jack Tunney has made some statements recently that lead Eddie Ellner to believe the federation official is talking out of both sides of his mouth.

*[The opinions expressed in "The Insider" are those of Eddie Ellner alone, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of anyone else on the staff of this magazine.]*

ELSEWHERE IN THIS magazine, Editor-in-Chief Stu Saks has a few things to say about WWF President Jack Tunney and his refusal to sanction a rematch

between WWF World champion The Ultimate(ly incomprehensible) Warrior and Hulk (I'm Balding As Fast As I Can) Hogan.

While Saks notes the absurdity of Tunney's immediate post-WrestleMania VI proclamation, he fails to discuss a recent statement by Tunney published in the Canadian press.

All of which leads me to this issue's . . .

**NEWS ITEM: WWF President Jack Tunney is revealed to be a two-faced, opportunistic, hypocritical blowhard of a federation figurehead.**

Of course, dear reader, if you've been following the sport with one iota of intelligence, you knew that already.

In any event, here's the proof that skeptics (I hear a few of you bleating out there) will demand:

● Immediately after WrestleMania VI: *"I cannot in clear conscience allow these two men to once again batter each other beyond the point of exhaustion, past the threshold of pain, and at the expense of risking torturous injury. Therefore, I will not sanction a rematch in the near future. I will leave both men to pursue their own separate destinies."*

● Quoted in late May in the *Toronto Sun* newspaper regarding the possibility of banning Earthquake's "Earthquake" splash: *"We all know what happens when you tamper with Mother Nature. Wrestlers know the risks before they enter the ring. The way I see it, the best way to silence the 'Quake is by dishing out the same type of punishment."*

Hello? Is anybody out there listening to what this man is saying?

On the one hand, WWF President Jack Tunney is a paragon of probity, protecting the sanctity of the ring and the health of his wrestlers the way a mother hen protects her chicks when the tag

*(Continued on page 52)*





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# A—ON— ASSIGNMENT

BY LIZ HUNTER

**G**ENERALLY, IT IS my policy not to comment in this column on issues that are dealt with elsewhere in the magazine. This month, however, I feel compelled to make an exception.

If you turn to page 40, you'll read the story entitled, "Chris Adams' Ex-Wife Vows: 'I'll Do Anything To Help Steve Austin Destroy My Ex-Husband'."

It's come to this, has it?

Wrestling has always been a sport where emotions run raw and close to the surface. Friendships are made and shattered in the blink of an eye, and a few poorly chosen words can ignite a feud that might rage on for months—or even years.

To me, that's always been one of the most compelling attractions about the sport. Instead of being faceless athletic automatons or anonymous cogs in a sprawling team machine, professional wrestlers place themselves—their bodies, their minds, their very souls—on the line each and every night. It is a sport of psychology as much as it is a sport of physicality.

Steve Austin thinks he's playing the ultimate game of psychology.

I think he's gone too far.

"Aw, come on, Liz, getting a little thin-skinned, are we?" Austin hissed condescendingly when I telephoned him recently to discuss the matter. "So what if Jeannie is willing to give me a little help against her ex? It's no different from, say, a situation where I



Steve Austin's valet, Jeannie, is beautiful and devious, but there's more to it than that: She is also the ex-wife of Chris Adams, the man with whom Austin is feuding.

form a tag team with an ex-friend of Chris' and wrestle him and a partner in the ring. Friend, wife, same difference. What's the big deal?"

The big deal, I tried to explain to Austin (who is clearly a socio-

logical neanderthal when it comes to interpersonal relationships), is that friendships are one thing, while marriages are quite another.

If a friendship goes sour, one has to question the foundation

*(Continued on page 54)*



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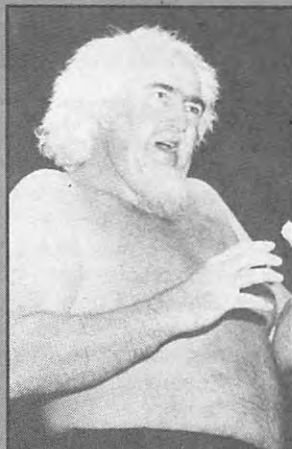
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# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Do you have a favorite wrestler who has left your area? Are you wondering where he is today? Then this special column is just for you. Each month we will update the whereabouts of four current or former wrestlers



## LUKE GRAHAM

The man known as "Crazy" Luke has recently returned to action for Georgia Championship Wrestling, an independent organization that promotes cards throughout that state. Graham has mellowed a bit since his heyday,

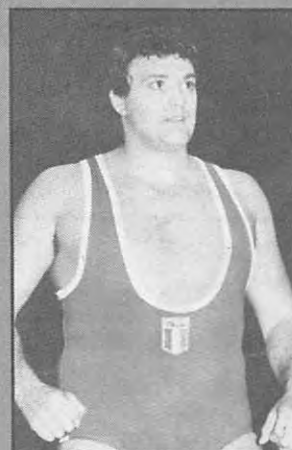
however. When he's not wrestling, Graham owns and operates an antique business. "I can't be wild and crazy *all* the time," said Graham, the last member of the famous Graham wrestling family who is still active.



## BOB ROOP

This former amateur great retired from the ring wars a few years ago to return to college to further his education. On occasion, he has assisted in the promotion of independent cards in Florida. But now, Roop is involved in the mat

world on a full-time basis as an executive assistant for the NWA. "They couldn't keep me away from this sport for long," said Roop, who was a top contender to Jack Brisco's NWA World title in the mid-'70s.



## SALVATORE BELLOMO

Bellomo, a native of Rome, Italy, was one of the most popular scientific stars in the WWF in the late '70s and early '80s. But today, Bellomo has changed drastically. He's become a brutal rulebreaker while

wrestling for the Catch Wrestling Association in Germany. Bellomo's rugged new style seems to have paid off, as he's currently rated the number-one contender for Otto Wanz' CWA belt.



## DRAGON MASTER

The sinister Japanese star has been appearing in the World Wrestling Council in Puerto Rico and on independent cards in Texas since leaving the NWA several months ago. He also is contemplating joining his

former tag team partner, The Great Muta, who is currently wrestling in the Orient. "Muta was the finest partner a wrestler could ever have," Dragon Master said through an interpreter.

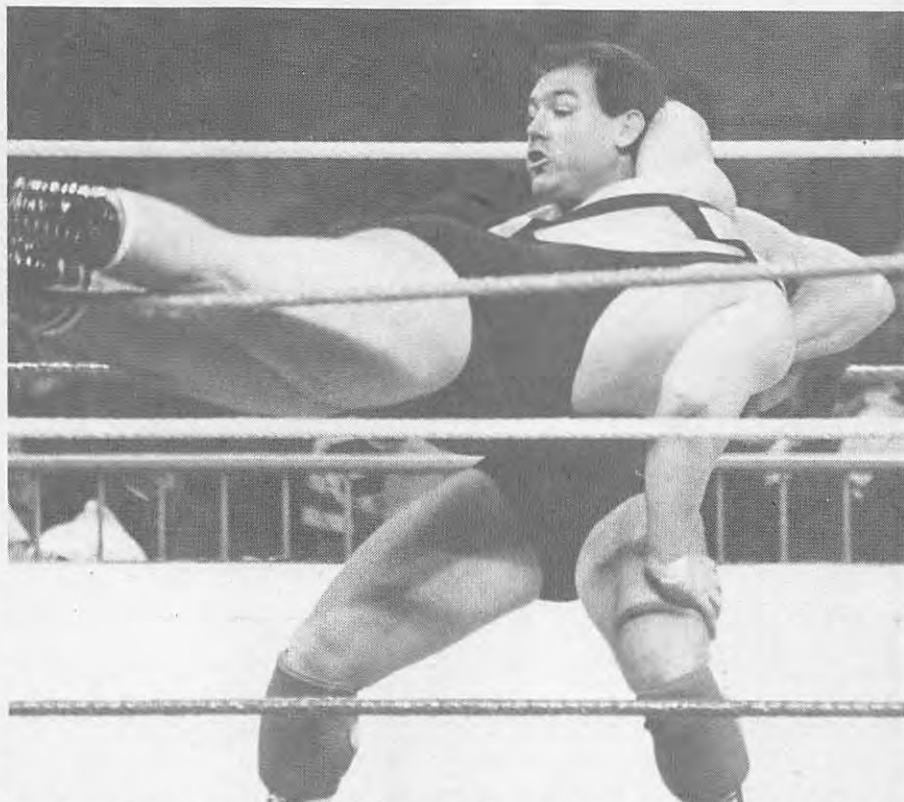


# INSIDE WRESTLING

170

## CAPSULE PROFILE

### TULLY BLANCHARD



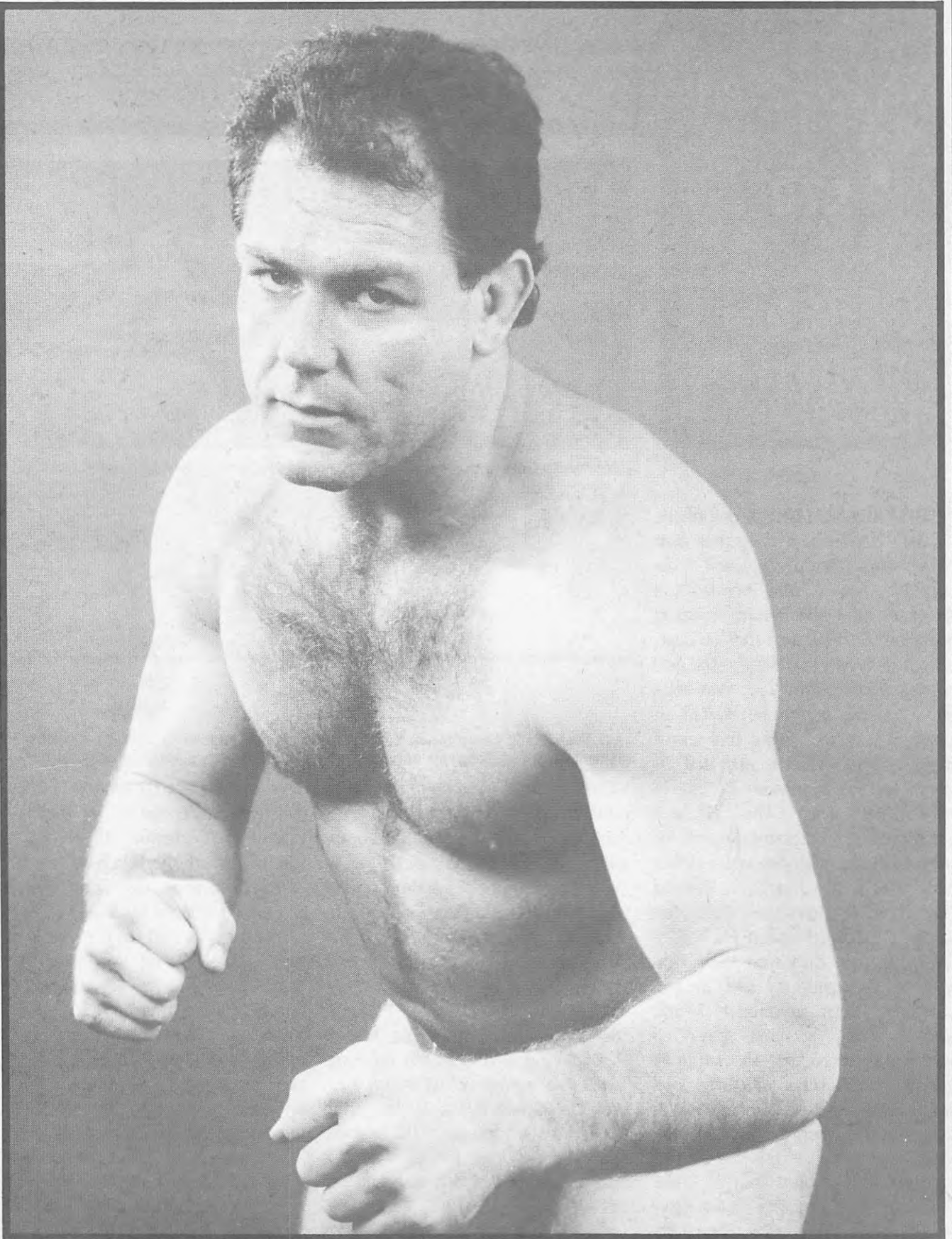
**T**ULLY BLANCHARD IS one of the most devious and dangerous men in the sport (*"It's a reputation I deserve"*) ... Son of AWA President Joe Blanchard, who gave him his wrestling education ... Was an excellent quarterback at West Texas State (*"The best in the school's history"*) ... Was actually a referee before he started to wrestle in 1976 ... His first major victory came when he defeated Al Madril for the Southwest TV title in 1979 (*"That's when I knew I'd be a big success"*) ... Became known for an outstanding slingshot-suplex (*"Nobody does it like I do"*) ... Formed "The Dynamic Duo" with Gino Hernandez ... Turned against Hernandez the same night they won the Southwest tag team title (*"I had my reasons"*) ... When he came to World Class in 1984, he lured Baby Doll away from Hernandez (*"She had to be mine"*) ... Left Texas with Baby Doll in late 1984 and went to the NWA, where he soon won the TV title from Mark Youngblood ... Lost the TV belt to Dusty Rhodes on March 16, 1985 (*"That fat slob wouldn't be so lucky the next time"*) ... The Blanchard-Rhodes feud was one of the most intense in NWA history ... Defeated Magnum T.A. for the U.S. title on July

Tully Blanchard's slingshot-suplex is an efficient and devastating finishing maneuver. A former member of The Four Horsemen, Blanchard has won several major titles.

21, 1985 (*"That was one of my sweetest victories"*) ... Lost the belt in an "I quit" match at Starrcade '85 (*"I never said I quit; check the tapes"*) ... In 1986, Blanchard helped form The Four Horsemen with Ric Flair, Ole and Arn Anderson, and manager J.J. Dillon (*"The greatest group of wrestlers ever assembled"*) ... Won the National title from Rhodes on March 4, 1986 ... Lost it to former teammate Wahoo McDaniel on August 28 (*"A fluke victory for a washed-up fat Indian"*) ... Won his second NWA TV title from Rhodes at Starrcade '86 (*"Two tremendous victories over the fat man that year"*) ... Lost that belt to Nikita Koloff on August 18, 1987 ... Teamed with Arn Anderson to win two NWA World tag team titles, from The Rock 'n' Roll Express in 1987, and Lex Luger and Barry Windham in 1988 (*"We*

*were the perfect tag team"*) ... Second reign was ended by The Midnight Express on September 10, 1988 ... The duo left for the WWF, where they called themselves The Brain Busters and were managed by Bobby Heenan ... Became the first team to win both the NWA and WWF World tag titles when they defeated Demolition on July 18, 1989 (*"If anybody had doubts about our greatness, that shut them up"*) ... Lost the belts back to Demolition on October 2, 1989 ... While Anderson returned to the NWA and the Horsemen, Blanchard went to the AWA, where his father is president (*"My dad knows I do things my way, not his"*) ... Also feuding with Rick Steamboat and Nikita Koloff on the independent circuit (*"I don't forget people who've wronged me in the past"*) □

## **CAPSULE PROFILE PINUP**



**TULLY BLANCHARD**



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Controversy reigned supreme during the annual summer Bash tour as Ric Flair and Lex Luger went at it in Baltimore. Also: Rhodes vs. Windham for U.S. title; triple-cage "Tower of Doom" featuring Russian Assassin I, Ivan Koloff, Perez, Rotundo, & Sullivan vs. Road Warriors, Garvins, & Williams; Fantastics vs. Midnight; Blanchard & Anderson vs. Nikita Koloff & Sting.  
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## #2 GREAT AMERICAN BASH '89

**The Glory Days**  
Revenge was the theme of the 1989 Bash as NWA champ Ric Flair came back from a broken neck to wrestle former champ Terry Funk, and U.S. champ Lex Luger battled Rick Steamboat. Also: Sting vs. Muta; War Games; a battle of wits turns to a battle of fists as Paul E. Dangerously rumbles with Jim Cornette; plus much more.  
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## #3 WRESTLE WAR '89

**Music City Showdown**  
Ric Flair's courageous effort in regaining the NWA belt from Rick Steamboat on May 7, 1989, in Nashville was voted Match of the Year—some called it the Match of the Decade! Also on this memorable card, Lex Luger battles Michael Hayes; Road Warriors clash with Mike Rotundo & Steve Williams; and more.  
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## #7 WRESTLE WAR '90 Wild Thing

Lex Luger could have won the NWA World title from Ric Flair, but saving Sting from a crippling attack from the Andersons took priority! On this night, Luger showed the fans just what's inside the "Total Package." Also: Steiners vs. Andersons, Road Warriors vs. Skyscrapers, more.  
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**#8 STARRCADE '87 Chi-Town Heat**  
The hottest Thanksgiving Day in Windy City history! CAGE MATCH THRILLERS: Ric Flair challenges NWA champ Ronnie Garvin;

Dusty Rhodes takes on U.S. champ Lex Luger. PLUS: Road Warriors vs. Blanchard & Anderson; Koloff vs. Taylor; Rock 'n' Rolls vs. Midnight on a scaffold; Williams vs. Windham; Garvin, Hayes, & Sting vs. Gilbert, Zbyszko, & Steiner.  
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## #9 STARRCADE '86 The Sky-Walkers

So big it had to be held in two locations—The Omni in Atlanta and the Greensboro Coliseum in North Carolina. Highlights include: NWA champ Ric Flair vs. Nikita Koloff; Road Warriors vs. Midnight on a scaffold; "First Blood" match—Rhodes vs. Blanchard; Ron Garvin vs. Big (Bossman) Bubba; Rock 'n' Rolls vs. Andersons in cage; Jones vs. Valiant—hair vs. hair.  
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## #10 STARRCADE '88 True Gritt

The sixth annual Starrcade event, the first under the Ted Turner banner, thrilled a sellout crowd at The Scope in Virginia. Featured: Lex Luger's challenge of Ric Flair; Road Warriors vs. Sting & Rhodes; Windham vs. Bigelow; Rotundo vs. Rick Steiner; Midnight vs. Midnight; and more.  
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# NEWS FROM THE

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## BATON ROUGE, LA By Sean Fluharty



**SCOTT STEINER  
vs.  
RON SIMMONS**



Scott had his brother, Rick, in his corner and Butch Reed had his Doom partner, Ron Simmons, in his. Scott stunned Simmons with some punches, then knocked him out of the ring. When Scott executed the "Frankensteiner," he didn't score the pin because he was distracted by Reed, who repeatedly interfered until Rick lost his temper and went after him. All four men battled in the ring and the referee declared the match a double-disqualification.

**OTHER BOUTS:** "Mean" Mark Callous defeated Pat Rose & The Rockin' Rebel ... Norman & Abdullah the Butcher wrestled Cactus Jack & Bam Bam Bigelow to a double-DQ ... Brian Pillman, Tom Zenk, Rick Morton, & Robert Gibson beat Michael Hayes, Jim Garvin, Stan Lane, & Bobby Eaton by DQ.

## AUSTIN, TX By Jason Vanning



**THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR  
vs.  
HAKU**



Haku attacked Warrior before the bell, but Warrior easily repulsed the attack. For the remainder of the match, Warrior almost completely dominated his quicker opponent. Haku gained a temporary advantage when he dropkicked Warrior and gave him a flying headbutt, but it wasn't nearly enough. Warrior gained the pin after giving Haku a shoulder-block and a big splash.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Hulk Hogan pinned Curt Hennig ... The Rockers and The Hart Foundation were both disqualified ... Big Bossman beat Akeem by DQ ... Earthquake defeated Hillbilly Jim.

## PORTLAND, ME By Adam Lamontagne



**BIG BOSSMAN  
vs.  
TED DiBIASE**

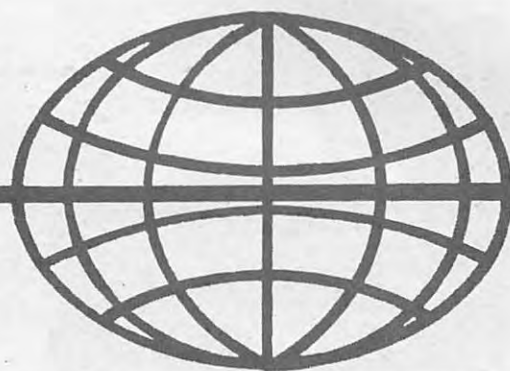


Bossman controlled the bout until DiBiase's bodyguard, Virgil, interfered. Forgetting about the "Million-Dollar Man," Bossman proceeded to hammer away at Virgil. This gave DiBiase time to recover, but his attack didn't amount to much as Bossman powerslammed him and scored the pin. DiBiase and Virgil jumped Bossman after the bell, but the former prison guard eventually cleared the ring.

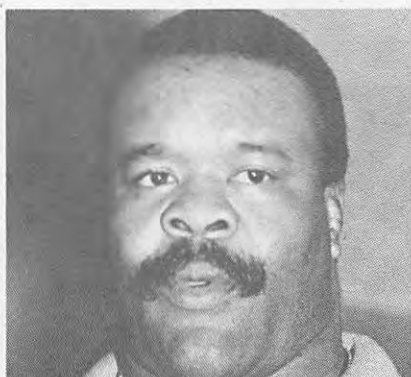
**OTHER BOUTS:** The Honky Tonk Man & Greg Valentine defeated The Bushwhackers by DQ ... Brutus Beefcake forced Lanny Poffo to submit ... The Warlord pinned Tito Santana ... Al Perez pinned Mark Young ... Koko B. Ware pinned Steve Lombardi ... Ronnie Garvin drew with Dino Bravo.



# WRESTLING CAPITALS



## JACKSON, MS By Kevin Kimble



**JUNKYARD DOG  
vs.  
BRIAN LEE**



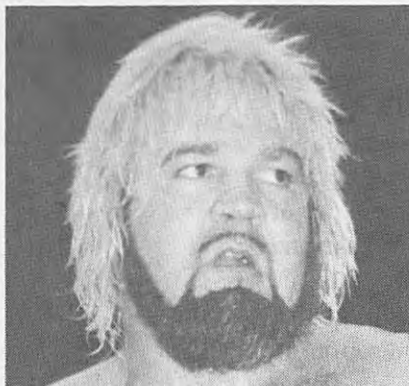
Lee jumped out of the ring at least six times in the first five minutes of this lumberjack match. Lee tried some short-cut maneuvers, but JYD overpowered him at every turn. JYD used a series of headbutts and slams to weaken his opponent. The lumberjacks kept the competitors in the ring, but they couldn't keep Gen. Skandor Akbar out. Seeing Akbar on the ring apron, JYD threw Lee into him. Lee was dazed and JYD rolled him into a small package for the pin.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Mike George defeated The Beast ... Rockin' Robin pinned Nasty Natalie ... The Fantastics defeated The Headhunters ... Sam Houston & Wendell Cooley beat Bob Orton & Johnny Mantell.

## PORTLAND, OR By Kenn Jones



**BILLY JACK HAYNES  
vs.  
RIP OLIVER**



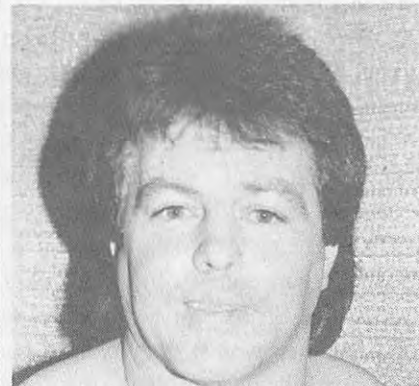
There were two referees in this bout: Scott Norton outside the ring and Sandy Barr inside. After Haynes whipped Oliver into Barr, he picked Barr up and dumped him crotch-first onto the top rope. Haynes had Oliver covered when Norton elbowed him and counted the pin with Oliver on top. After Brian Adams ran in and attacked Norton, Haynes and Adams whipped Norton with a belt. Norton grabbed the belt and swung it at Adams and Oliver, who fled the ring.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Curtis Thompson & Ricky Santana beat Bill Francis & Larry Oliver ... Scotty the Body and The Grappler battled to a no-contest ... Scott Norton pinned Al Madril ... Beetlejuice & Big Juice drew with The Equalizer & The Grappler.

## MEMPHIS, TN By Mark Mitchell



**JOHN TATUM  
vs.  
BILL DUNDEE**



Tatum had taken off Dundee's boot and was attempting to hit him with it when Dundee ducked and the boot went flying out of the ring. Tatum's valet, Tessa, threw the boot back in the ring, but missed her target. Dundee got hold of the boot, whacked Tatum with it, and scored the pin.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Ben Jordan beat The Inhuman ... The Southern Rockers defeated The Invaders ... Jonnie Stewart beat Chris Champion ... Jeff Jarrett, Kerry Von Erich, & Billy Travis defeated The Dirty White Boys & Ronald P. Gossett ... Jerry Lawler beat The Snowman by disqualification ... Rex King won a 16-man battle royal.



# Matt Brock's PLAIN SPEAKING

**WASHINGTON, DC:** Capital Combat '90 brought us two title changes, but neither of them was the big one everyone had hoped for. The Midnight Express took the U.S. tag team belts from Tom Zenk and Brian Pillman, and Doom won the NWA World tag team title from Rick and Scott Steiner. But as of Saturday night, May 19, Ric Flair was still walking around with the NWA World heavyweight title. We are looking, folks, at a man who is flirting with disaster. He's ready to take his reputation and flush it right down the toilet. How many times can Flair's fellow Four Horsemen save his hide? It's a shame, actually, and Luger should be champion today. But let's talk about the night's *real* winners. Only six months ago, Doom was shut out at the Iron Team competition at Starrcade '89. At that time, of course, they were managed by Woman. But how many people thought Teddy Long was much better? Everyone says being unmasked turned this team around, but I'm not so sure. Personally, I think there are just certain flukes in wrestling, and this is one of them. Every team eventually goes on a hot streak, and that's what's happening with Doom right now. Mark my words: If the Steiners stick together (and I'm hearing rumors that they won't), they will be back on top in no time. As for Pillman and Zenk, they simply fell victim to a more powerful force. Maybe the Midnights aren't what they once were, but they still have a lot of experience—and Cornette's devious strategic mind—to back them up. Pillman and Zenk are young and talented, but they still have a lot to learn. And one word about RoboCop: Why? Four more words about RoboCop: Is this the WWF?

**DALLAS, TX:** News flash: Kerry Von Erich is suspended for striking an official. Hard to believe. That is, it's hard to believe that Von Erich would strike an official (matchmaker John Brazzel was the victim), and it's equally hard to believe that the USWA would suspend him for doing so. You see, there was a time in Texas when a Von Erich could get away with anything, *including* striking an offi-



**RON SIMMONS VS. SCOTT STEINER**

cial (which, to my knowledge, none of them ever did). This was their territory and they basically set the rules. Now, of course, Kevin and Kerry are treated like everyone else. "Wrestlers must know that it is absolutely wrong to lay a hand on any referee, matchmaker, or other official



# Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor

of the USWA," federation President Max Andrews said. "We're doing what it takes to keep order in this federation." That's ironic, because the Von Erichs were always the ones who kept order in Texas. Times have certainly changed. "Matt, it was totally inadvertent," Kerry told



**JOHN BRAZZEL & KERRY VON ERICH**

me. "There's no way I would hit a referee on purpose. It's just that I got carried away with [Matt] Borne." I saw a tape of the match, and I agree with Kerry's defense. The USWA could have considered his record before levying such a serious penalty.

**ROSEMONT, IL:** Sensational Sherri, Sapphire, and now Elizabeth. Dusty Rhodes and Randy Savage have put together their own little women's club in the WWF. Here at the Rosemont Horizon, Elizabeth joined Rhodes and Sapphire for a match against Sherri and Savage. Natural-



**ELIZABETH & DUSTY RHODES**

ly, Elizabeth couldn't help but get involved. Neither could Brother Love, who provides even more comic relief in this already comedic feud. These people have gone way overboard, and if the WWF had any sense—which I sincerely doubt—it would put a harness on the situation. Get rid of Elizabeth and Brother Love. Get rid of Sensational Sherri and Sapphire. Let Rhodes and Savage battle it out on their own. Just once, wouldn't you like to see Rhodes vs. Savage without any of the outside interference? These are two great wrestlers. One's a former NWA World and U.S. champion, while the other's a former WWF World and Intercontinental champion. They could put on quite a display of *wrestling* for the folks. The WWF, however, realizes it has a box-office bonanza on its hands and is quite willing to let the sideshow go on. Memo to the WWF: Box office receipts don't make it right. The integrity of the sport is important. That's something that can't be bought.

**ISLIP, NY:** The Suffolk County Fair. We're not too far from Saks' house. Hope he isn't here. This is wrestling at its roots. Back in the old days, even before I came along, the only way you could see wrestling was by attending a state or county fair. That's how it all started. Now, of course, we have SkyDomes and Egg Domes and international spectaculars. On this day, there are a few thousand fans on hand to see Sgt. Slaughter vs. Iron Mike Sharpe, Kamala vs. Ron Shaw, Misty Blue vs. Kat LeRoux, and a host of not-so-well-known wrestlers. It doesn't matter. Everybody had a good time. This was a feel-good day. "It's great to wrestle in this kind of atmosphere," Slaughter said. "The big-time is great, but you really can't compare it to this. I'm not saying which one is better, but I feel like a *wrestler* here. And the fans, man, they're just having a great time. I think even Sharpe enjoyed having his butt kicked." I'm not so sure about that. Saw Sharpe later on and he had some cotton candy in his hands. "That stuff can really do a number on your body," I said. Folks, ol' Matt Brock almost got into a match of his own right there at the Suffolk County Fair. By the way, Saks never showed. Maybe I should telephone him once in a while and bug *him* to show up for some special assignments! □

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# THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS— ON A FAST TRACK TO DOOM!



Photos by Roy London



Now that they've won the U.S. tag team title for a third time, The Midnight Express (above left) have their sights set on a greater prize: the NWA World tag team belts held by Doom (above right).

By Liz Hunter

IT WAS A celebration as only Jim Cornette could stage it. It was only midway through the card at "Capital Combat '90" on May 19 in Washington, D.C., but already the rulebreakers' locker room was filled with the sound of popping corks and flowing champagne. Stan Lane and Bobby Eaton—The Midnight Express—reveled in the victory over Tom Zenk and Brian Pillman that gave them their third U.S. tag team title.

"It's like I've always said," Cornette boasted as he drew deeply on a victory cigar, "the U.S. tag team title was practically *invented* for Stan and Bobby. That's why they've dominated this title over the past few years. But if you know anything about me at all, you know that holding these U.S. belts is simply not enough for an ambitious guy like me."

Cornette barely managed to step out of the way as Eaton came running toward him with a champagne bottle, trying to spray its contents over his

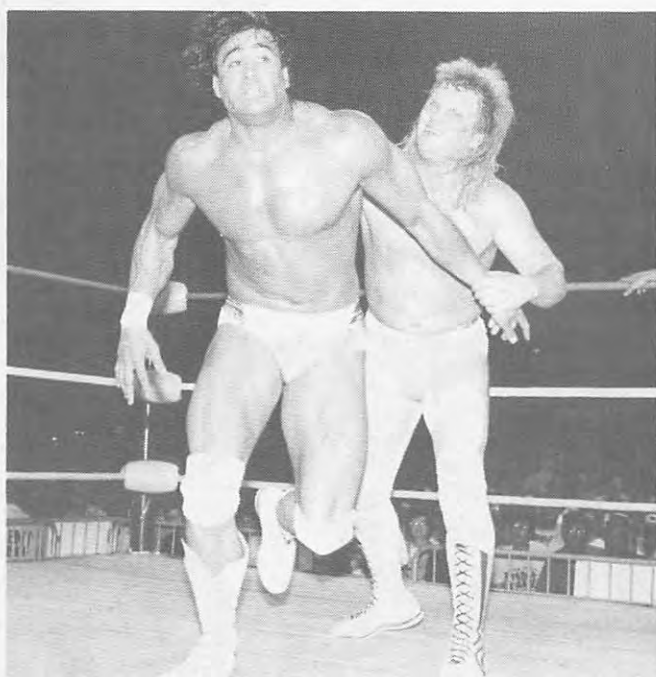
manager's head. Instead, the sticky liquid drenched a group of reporters who were trying to listen to Cornette's comments.

"Serves you jerks right!" laughed Cornette as the journalists struggled to dry themselves off. "I hope those suds ruin all those expensive clothes. For months, you people have been writing that the Express was over the hill because we lost some matches to Pillman and Zenk while trying to regain the U.S. belts. Well, we proved you all wrong tonight, didn't we?"

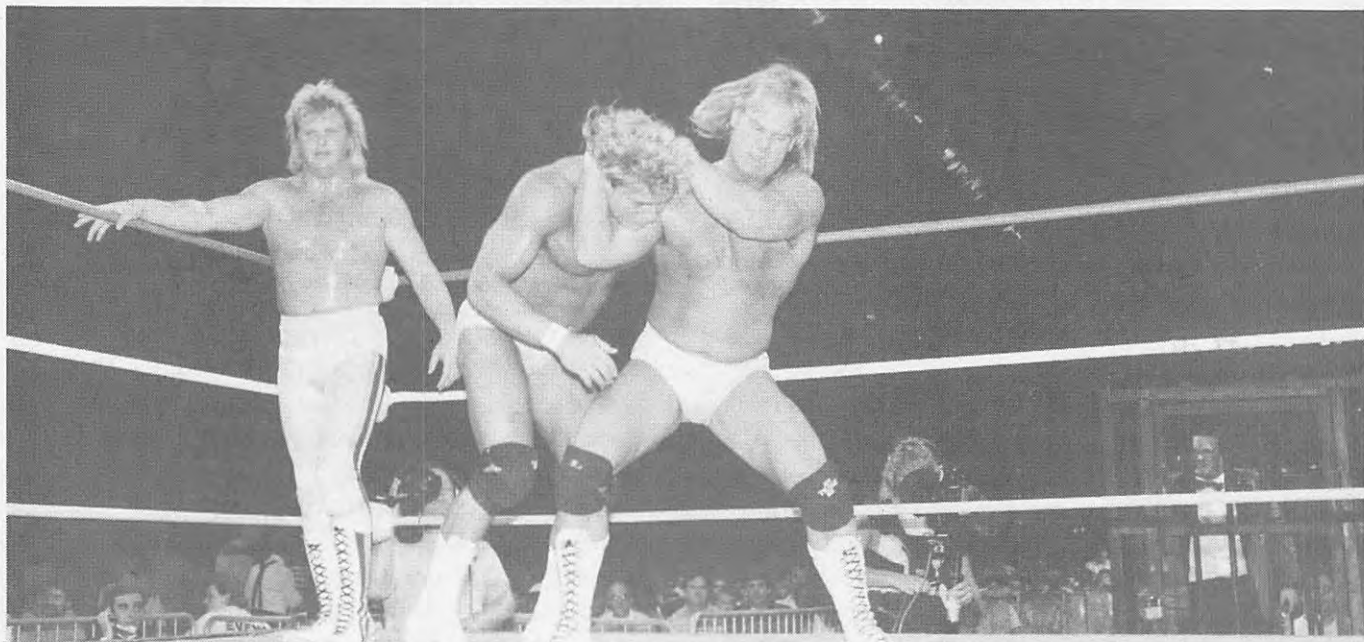
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***The Midnight Express shocked the wrestling world when they upset Tom Zenk and Brian Pillman to capture their third U.S. tag team title. But even this return to success isn't enough for Express manager Jim Cornette, who now has his sights set on the NWA World tag team title held by Doom!***

---



Stan Lane intends to injure Brian Pillman's neck (above left). Bobby Eaton whips Tom Zenk across the ring (above right). The Midnight's won even though Jim Cornette was in a cage at ringside.



Eaton and Lane surprised the critics who said they'd never be able to score a clean win over Pillman and Zenk. Although both the Midnight's and Doom are rulebreaker teams, Cornette wants them to meet in title vs. title bouts.

Indeed, the Express' match against Pillman and Zenk silenced many who believed the team was struggling through a prolonged slump.

When the match began, Cornette and his men looked like anything *but* winners. A special stipulation for this match held that Cornette was to be locked in a steel cage at ringside so that he couldn't interfere.

As it turned out, the Express didn't need Cornette's interference to win. Zenk caught Eaton with a flying body-

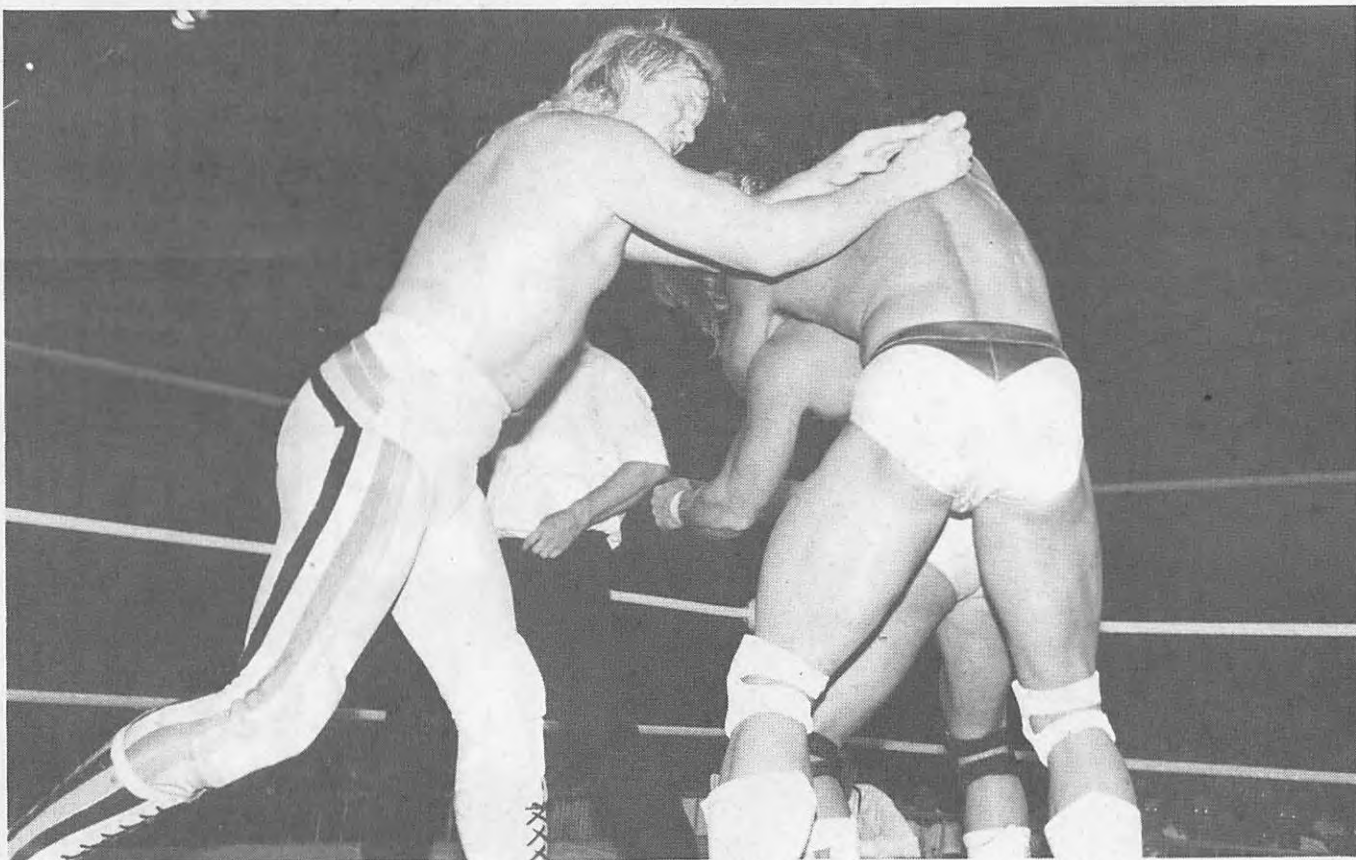
press, but Lane ran in the ring to break up the pin. Pillman ran in to try to stop the interference, but referee Pee Wee Anderson directed Pillman out. With the referee's back turned, Lane caught Zenk with a reverse kick to the back of the head, and Eaton rolled up the "Z-Man" with an inside cradle for the win and the title.

And now that Lane and Eaton have regained the U.S. belts, one date keeps returning to Cornette's mind: September 10, 1988. It was on that chilly

night in Philadelphia that the Express defeated Arn Anderson and Tully Blanchard to become the first team ever to hold the NWA World and U.S. tag team titles simultaneously.

"Now we wanna do it *again*," Cornette howled. "This U.S. title is great, and it's a logical first step toward regaining our status as the greatest team in NWA history. But the next phase of our plan is [NWA World tag team champions] Doom. We won both titles before, so we certainly should be able





Eaton gets Zenk off of Lane (above), and watches as his partner punishes Pillman (below). The Midnight's held the U.S. and World tag titles at the same time once before, and they intend to do it again.



to do it again!"

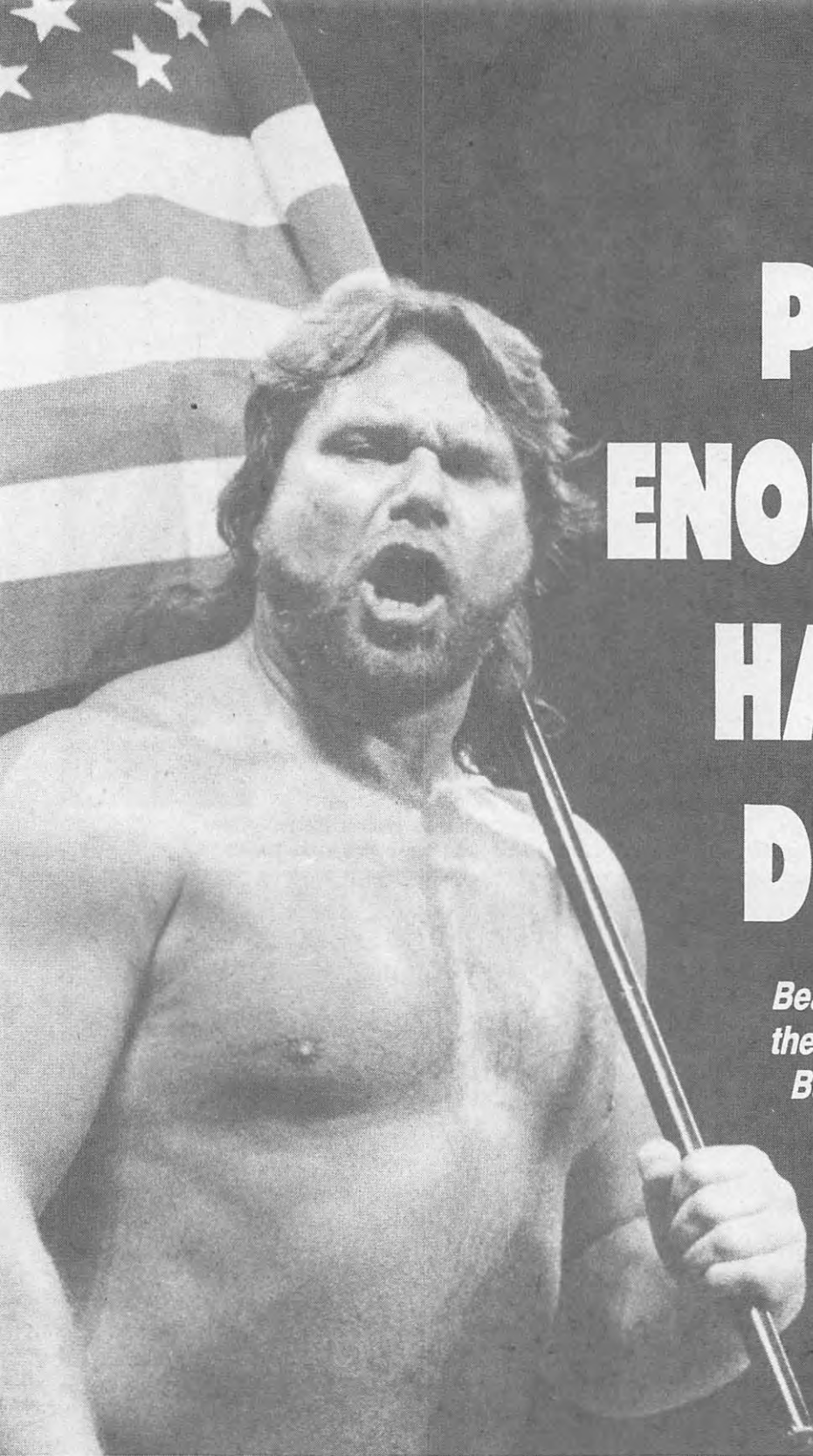
The prospect of a Doom-Express title match is an intriguing one. Ron Simmons and Butch Reed won the NWA World title from Rick and Scott Steiner—also at "Capital Combat"—and it was considered an even greater upset than the Express' victory over Pillman and Zenk. But if you ask Doom's manager, Teddy Long, about

the possibility of a match between the two teams, he only laughs.

"The Express is pretty good, but Jimmy is a good friend of mine," said Long. "Right now, Simmons and Reed are defending our title against the Steiners, which is certainly distasteful to me for many reasons. But Eaton and Lane defeat my two powerhouses? Don't make me laugh!"

Long may laugh off the threat of the Express now, but he may not have that luxury in the future. In the NWA, whoever holds the U.S. heavyweight title is usually considered the top contender for the World championship; the U.S. tag team champions haven't been awarded the same type of luxury. Still, a solid string of victories by the

*(Continued on page 56)*



# IS BEING POPULAR ENOUGH FOR HACKSAW DUGGAN?

*Beating after beating hasn't taken the spirit out of Hacksaw Duggan. But when will the losing become too much? There will come a time when Duggan decides that the respect of the fans doesn't make up for the humiliation he so often suffers in the ring*

By Dave Rosenbaum

THERE WAS A time, Steve Williams recalls, back in the old UWF, when Hacksaw Duggan sat in the locker room, smiling his face off, laughing at reporters' jokes, and signing autographs for well-wishers after a match against some by-now-forgotten opponent.

The catch, Williams remembered, is that Duggan *lost* the match.

"I couldn't believe what I was seeing," Williams said. "So I got up off my stool, walked over to where Duggan was standing, looked him square in the eye, and

said, 'Man, what the heck are you laughing about? You just got beat! Don't that bother you?'

"Hacksaw—and I'll never forget this—he patted me on the back, put that smile back on his face, and said, 'Relax, Doc. Did you hear those fans out there? They



love me! Winning ain't everything.'

"At that point, I realized Hacksaw had a big problem. He thinks wrestling is a big popularity contest. Well, that just isn't the case. Winning and losing is the bottom line."

Years have passed since that incident. Williams and Duggan are no longer together. The UWF is defunct. But some things *haven't* changed.

Williams, the feared "Dr. Death," is still a ruthless wrestler with only one goal: winning.

Jim Duggan, the not-so-feared Hacksaw, still gets a kick out of winning *or* losing. After all these years, the fans are still Duggan's bottom line.

"He walks into the locker room after every match with that same happy look on his face," one WWF wrestler said. "He doesn't care if he won or lost, he says he's just fighting for America and the fans. Man, once in a while you just gotta think about yourself."

Especially when you're getting beaten time and time again while wrestling for the glory of ol' glory. Duggan's trusty 2x4 has been about as effective as the foam replicas sold at WWF souvenir stands.

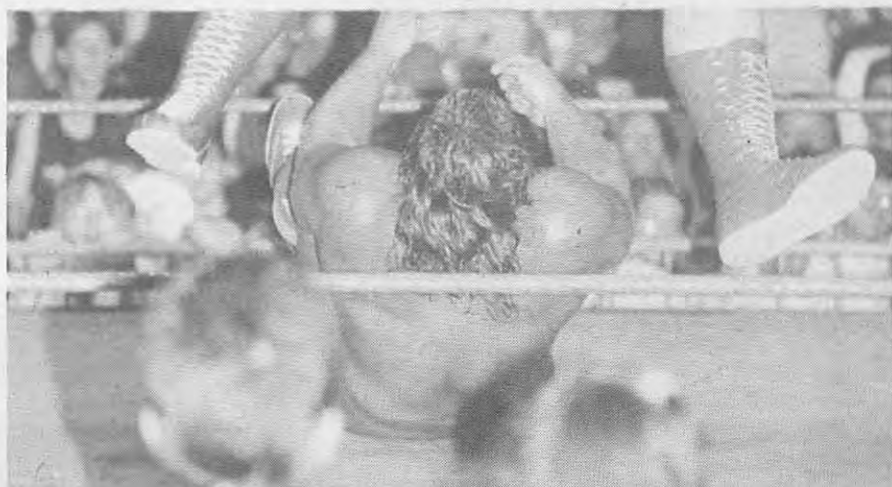
First, it was Dino Bravo. Duggan saved several preliminary wrestlers from beatings at the hands of Bravo, but he found himself overmatched when it came his turn to wrestle the powerful Canadian. Every night—and it went on for months—Duggan was torn to shreds by Bravo's strength and determination.

Now it's happening again. This time, Duggan is rescuing fellow fan favorites from the feared Earthquake; he saved preliminary wrestler Jerry Monti from the Earthquake. Now he's taking a beating for everyone.

(Continued on page 58)

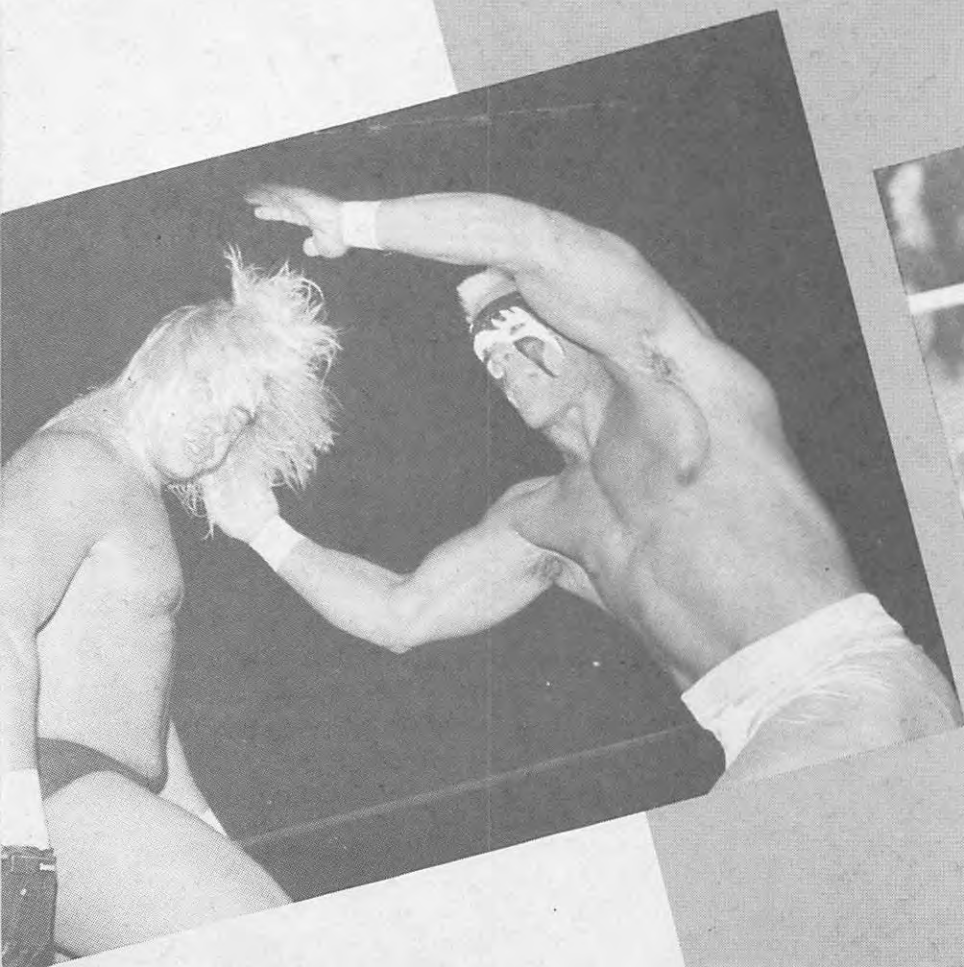


Hacksaw Duggan has been manhandled by Earthquake recently (above and below), but he's retained the fighting spirit that has made him so popular. As the losses mount, will Hacksaw change his point of view?



FIGHTING FIRE WITH FIRE:  
**THE AWESOME  
FOURSOME—**  
COMMITTED TO  
DESTROYING  
THE HORSEMEN

By Bob Smith





**Enough is enough! After the incredible attack by The Four Horsemen at Capital Combat '90, the four most talented fan favorites in the NWA—Lex Luger, Sting, and Rick and Scott Steiner—have banded together to prevent further violence. Can even the Horsemen survive the assault of this team of superstars?**

**I**T SEEMED TOO good to be true. When Lex Luger signed for a steel cage title match against NWA World champion Ric Flair at "Capital Combat '90," it was like heaven on earth for the "Total Package."

No countouts.

No disqualifications.

And, best of all, no outside interference.

So what happened?

Incredibly, even the 30-foot-high "Thunderdome" steel cage were not enough to keep Flair's brazen Four Horsemen compatriots from once

again creating havoc. When Luger locked Flair in his "human torture rack" backbreaker, Horsemen manager Ole Anderson gained control of the

***"The big thing is that we keep the pressure on the Horsemen and never lighten up."***

**—Sting**

device that electronically raised and lowered the doorless cage. Barry Windham and Arn Anderson ran into the cage and, joined by Flair, unmercifully

Sting on Barry Windham (opposite page left), Rick Steiner on Ole Anderson (opposite page right), Lex Luger on Ric Flair (left), and Scott Steiner on Arn Anderson (below). That's how the fan favorites plan to eliminate The Four Horsemen.

stomped away on Luger's right knee. Yet another situation where the Horsemen couldn't possibly interfere had turned into yet another situation where the Horsemen had once again obliterated any sense of sport and fair play.

Something must be done to keep it from happening again.

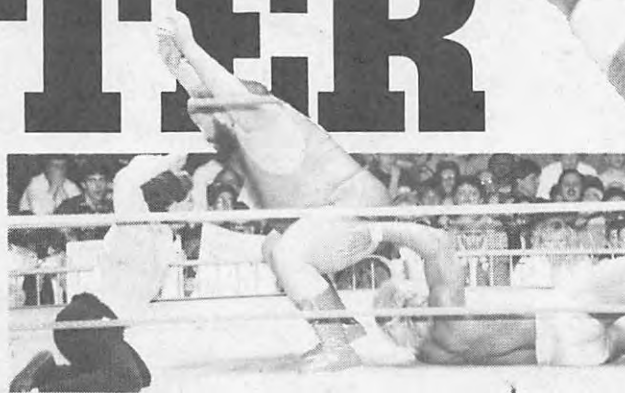
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"Thank God for you, Sting," said Luger from his bed in the Washington hospital where, in the days after "Capital Combat," he received treatment for a staph infection in his right knee. "If it hadn't been for you and El Gigante, those Horsemen would probably still be beating on me. I really appreciate the assist, as well as this visit, pal."

"No problem, Lex," said Sting, who delivered a get-well card to his

(Continued on page 60)



# HULK HOGAN: BITTER EX-CHAMPION



A vicious attack by a vicious man named Earthquake sidelined Hulk Hogan with multiple injuries. But it was Hogan's own bitterness over being ex-champion—not the sadism of Earthquake—that really sealed the "Hulkster's" doom

By Dave Rosenbaum

**W**E WON'T BE seeing Hulk Hogan for a while. Earthquake and his manager, Jimmy Hart, took care of that. With a couple of cowardly splashes, Hart and Earthquake put Hogan on the sidelines.

See you in September, Hulk.

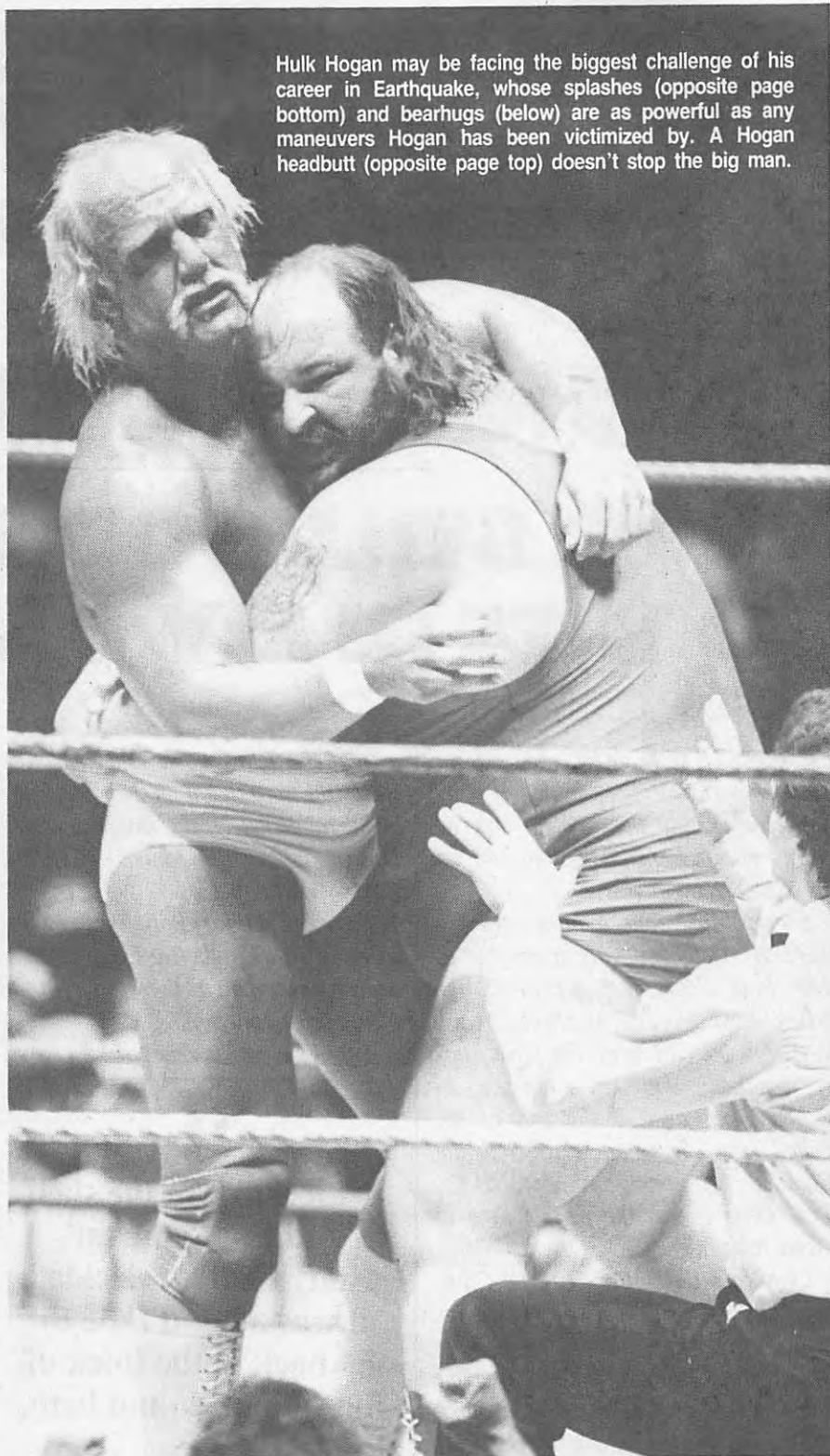
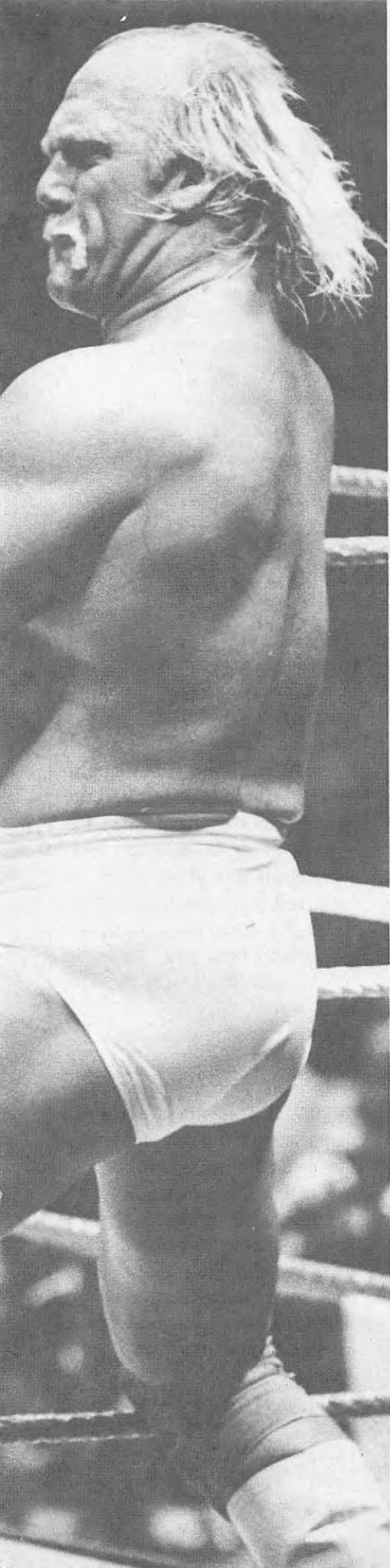
"At least not until August," one doctor said. "He suffered serious rib and sternum injuries and it's going to take a while for him to fully recover. Fortunately, he's in outstanding shape. Maybe he'll even come back a better

man for it all."

Maybe he'll also come back a less bitter man.

La Crosse, Wisconsin, May 15, 1990: The La Crosse Center is packed to the rafters to watch another installment in the Hogan-Earthquake war. Hogan wins by disqualification when Hart interferes. Moments later, Hogan and Hart are being interviewed by Brother Love. Earthquake sneaks up from behind Hogan and smashes him with a chair. Then he executes three—





Hulk Hogan may be facing the biggest challenge of his career in Earthquake, whose splashes (opposite page bottom) and bearhugs (below) are as powerful as any maneuvers Hogan has been victimized by. A Hogan headbutt (opposite page top) doesn't stop the big man.

count 'em—*three* of his brutal “earthquakes” splashes.

Hogan, hurt and humiliated, is carried out on a stretcher. The fans in Wisconsin are stunned.

Maybe they should have seen it coming.

On April 1 in Toronto, Hogan lost the WWF World title to The Ultimate Warrior at WrestleMania VI. A few

days later, WWF President Jack Tunney said there would be no rematch. Hogan complained, but got nowhere. With a rematch out of the question, Hogan went out in search of new game.

He found Earthquake.

But Earthquake was never the man Hogan wanted. While wrestling Earth-

*(Continued on page 62)*

# HOTSEAT

## JUNKYARD DOG

### "I'VE STILL GOT A LOT OF BITE IN MY BARK!"

**H**E'S BACK, AND he's bigger than ever! The Junkyard Dog has returned to the NWA, and he clearly hasn't been content to rest on his past achievements.

For the first four months of 1990, the Dog watched silently from afar as The Four Horsemen terrorized the NWA, leaving a trail of broken bodies in their wake. But after Ric Flair, Barry Windham, and Arn Anderson attacked Lex Luger at the end of the Flair-Luger cage match at "Capital Combat '90" in Washington, D.C., JYD knew it was the perfect time to make his presence felt.

Only four days after "Capital Combat '90," Dog made a triumphant return by rescuing preliminary wrestler Rocky King from an attack by Flair and Ole Anderson. Later on that same card, Dog teamed with Paul Orndorff and Sting to rescue The Road Warriors from yet another Horsemen gang-up.

But JYD's best was yet to come. Luger was forced out of action by a severe staph infection in his right knee, and the Dog was chosen to take his place in matches against Flair. Although they were non-title bouts, JYD made the most of them: He pinned Flair in a steel cage match on May 25 in St. Louis, and followed that up with

a pinfall victory over the "Nature Boy" the next night in Norfolk, Virginia. Immediately, the Dog established himself as a top contender to the NWA World title.

Associate Editor Bob Smith spoke with the always-talkative Dog in Atlanta as he prepared to wrestle at an NWA television taping.

“

**With Sting on the shelf and Luger hurtin' pretty badly, I decided it was a good time to get back in the thick of the action around here.**

”

**Q:** JYD, welcome back to the NWA. You've had an amazing impact on this federation in a pretty short amount of time. Did you really think you'd explode on the scene the way you have?

**A:** Hey, why not? Just because I was doin' some time in the independent

federations doesn't mean I lost any of my fire, brother. Hey, in almost every match I had in the indies, I was takin' on the best competition I could find. From Paul Jones to Manny Fernandez, I was out there givin' my all every night, and I was winning all my matches, too. Hey, I've still got a lot of bite left in my bark, and don't you forget it. But lately, I'd been really concerned with what's been goin' on in the NWA, and that's why I came back, son.

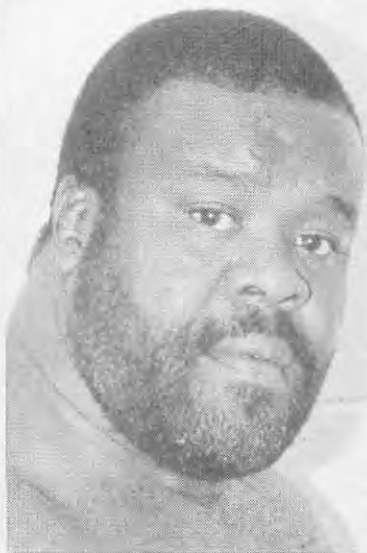
**Q:** What's been troubling you the most?

**A:** Well, every time I would turn on the TV, I'd see those Horsemen dudes stompin' on somebody. First they injured Sting. Then they tried to take Lex Luger out. Hell, they'll jump *anybody* as long as it's a three-on-one or four-on-one situation. So with Sting on the shelf and Luger hurtin' pretty badly, I just decided it was a good time to get back in the thick of the action around here.

**Q:** You should be glad you did! In your first two matches against Flair, you beat him, even though neither of those bouts were for his NWA World title.







“

**Ric Flair may be a six-time NWA champion, but he ain't so big and bad if you can get him all by himself.**

”

**A:** Not bad, eh? Ric Flair may be a six-time NWA champion, but he ain't so big and bad if you can get him all by himself. You see, that's really the secret to getting around this whole Horsemen scheme that Flair and the Andersons dreamed up a few years ago. When one of them gets in trouble, the rest of them show up. There's safety in numbers, you know. But I proved what the real deal was when I beat Flair in that cage match. This time, even the other Horsemen couldn't save Flair, 'cause the cage was down—and it *stayed* down this time. Man, I never saw nothin' like that Capital Combat match with Flair against Luger in the cage. Who ever heard of outside interference in a cage match? In my bout, I made sure that security was around to keep the cage firmly on the ground. And sure enough, I

beat Flair, mainly because there wasn't no way the Andersons, Barry Windham, or that ugly ol' Sid Vicious could get at me.

**Q:** But even more impressive was the next night in Norfolk. You pinned Flair in the center of the ring, even though Arn Anderson tried to interfere many times during the match.

**A:** Yeah, but like I said before, that's the Horsemen way. It really is the toughest situation I've seen in my 12 years of wrestling. Even during my stint in the WWF, there were some pretty outrageous groups like the Bobby Heenan "family," but nobody compares to the sheer meanness and badness of the Horsemen. These guys were born and bred to beat people up. But then again, ain't nobody any better at layin' a whuppin' on somebody than yours truly. And that's what I'm aiming to do to Ric and his bad buddies.

**Q:** So far, things seem to be going pretty well, but it's clear that you won't be able to survive on your

own for long. Have you enlisted anyone else to help you in your battles against these men?

**A:** So far, I've been teaming with The Road Warriors, and we've been able to win in six-man tag team matches against the Horsemen—when we've been able to deflect their outside interference, that is. A couple of times, they'd sneak a guy in there to distract us, so we'd lose. But everybody knows that Sting hates the Horsemen as much as anyone possibly could. I've promised I'll give him all the support he needs as soon as he's ready to get back in there and battle it out. The same thing goes for Luger, too, and that goes for anyone else who wants to get rid of these guys. Hey, I'm not afraid of any of those Horsemen, and I really think that's the secret to gettin' rid of them.

**Q:** What do you mean?

**A:** Hey, it don't take no Einstein to figure it out. When the Horsemen put Sting out of action, it was like they took all the life out of the NWA. If you ask me, they took all the fun out of it, too. Instead of guys goin' out there and enjoying themselves during their matches, guys were actually afraid and lookin' over their shoulders, 'cause they were worried they'd see the Horsemen comin' after 'em. That's no way for a wrestling federation to exist. That fear was makin' everybody tentative, afraid to challenge the Horsemen. Well, to hell with that! As you've seen, the very first I did was get in there and challenge the Horsemen. Next thing I knew, Sting was right behind me, backin' me up. And then Paul Orndorff said he wanted some matches against 'em. Now, you've got wrestlers from Tommy Rich all the way to Rocky King sayin' that they *want* to wrestle the Horsemen! You see? All I had to do was take the fear away.

**Q:** You've done a great job at that, but many people think you may have bitten off more than you can



Surprisingly, Junkyard Dog has pinned NWA World champion Ric Flair in several non-title matches.





In 1984, Junkyard Dog met Butch Reed in this dog-collar chain match. Perhaps now that Reed holds the NWA World tag team title with Ron Simmons, JYD will want to find a partner and go after those belts.

chew this time. Flair has been pretty embarrassed by his losses to you, and he claims that you're going to be the next man to end up with a broken knee.

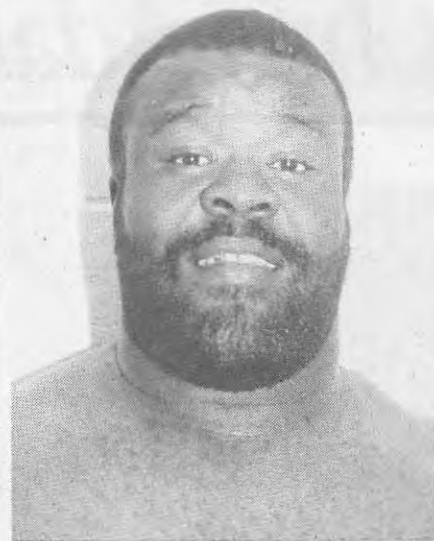
**A:** Well, ain't *that* sweet! It's *so* kind of him to be thinkin' of me, considering he's the World champion and all. *Shoot*—I don't like that guy, and I sure as hell don't respect him. It wasn't all that long ago that Flair was the kind of guy that just about everybody could look up to. The last time I was in the NWA, Terry Funk attacked him, and he spent almost three months on the shelf recuperating. I really thought a little adversity would teach Flair a little more about life, but was I ever wrong! Now, he's actin' more like a spoiled infant that ever. And that little bimbo he's had hangin'

around, what's her name . . .

**Q:** Woman. You're referring to the Horsemen's business adviser.

**A:** *Woman?* What kind of name is that for a young lady? Well, from what I've seen, she ain't good for nothing but passing foreign objects to her Horsemen buddies. She'd better watch herself, too, or I'm gonna drape her over my knee and give her the spanking she so richly deserves. She got no business hangin' around my matches, anyway.

**Q:** But the Horsemen are claiming that *you* have no business being back in the NWA. Already, you've received those non-title matches against Flair, but Ole Anderson claims you really didn't deserve those shots since you'd only been in the NWA for a few days at the time. Now, Anderson is campaigning with the NWA brass and say-



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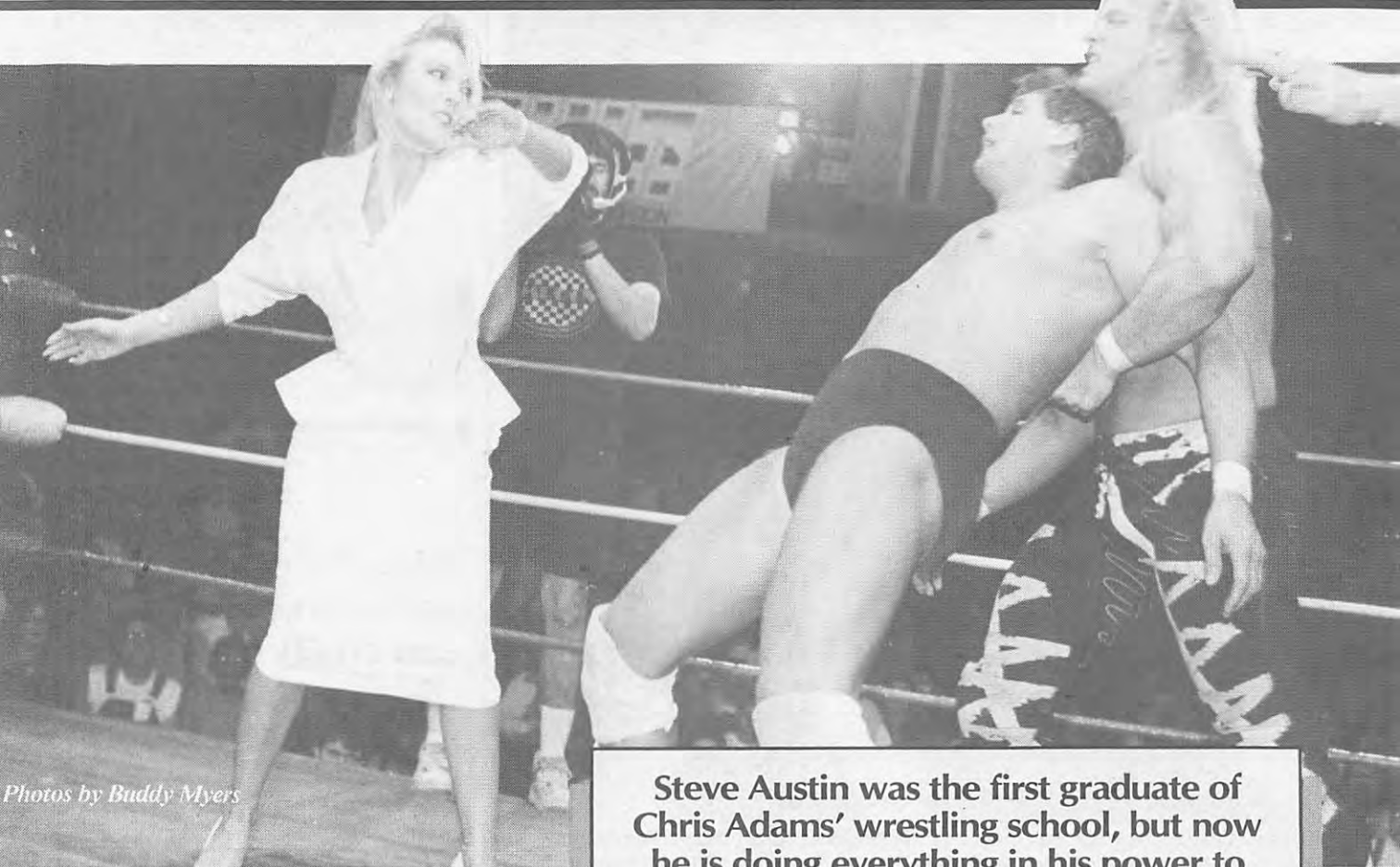
Hey, I'm not afraid of any of those Horsemen, and I really think that's the secret to gettin' rid of them.

”

ing that you don't deserve full-fledged title bouts because you haven't been around long enough.

**A:** That's tough for him. The only reason the NWA gave me those matches is because the Horsemen had hurt Luger, and the NWA needed somebody to fill in for him. Anderson shouldn't be complaining. In reality, it should have been Sting that got the next series of title matches, but he wasn't quite ready to come back yet. And the way Sting's been feeling about Flair, if he was to wrestle Flair right now, he'd probably kill him. With me, I'm more interested in showing these guys up for the frauds they really are. And I'm gonna keep on doin' it 'till there ain't no Horsemen no more. After all, every dog needs a bone to chew on. And I sure found me five big ones, didn't I? □

# Chris Adams' Ex-Wife Vows:



Photos by Buddy Myers

By Bob Smith

**T**HEY CALL Chris Adams the "Gentleman," but don't ever mention that to his ex-wife, Jeannie.

"Chris Adams is a no-good, lying, filthy little two-faced rat," said Jeannie matter-of-factly. "I don't know why fans cheer for that creep. He's the most horrible man I've ever been involved with."

In the past, if you had asked Adams about his former spouse, he'd always try to be as diplomatic as possible.

"In anyone's life, some relationships work and some don't," Adams said a few months ago. "Yes, it is true that I had a marriage that didn't quite make it. But what's past is past, and that's really my business and no one else's."

But now Adams' past is *everyone's* business. Jeannie is back, and she is

**Steve Austin was the first graduate of Chris Adams' wrestling school, but now he is doing everything in his power to run his mentor out of the USWA—and that includes using Adams' former wife, Jeannie, as a weapon in this most unusual war!**

now assisting Adams' own protege, Steve Austin, in an attempt to drive Adams out of the USWA!

This strange scenario began late last year, when Adams brought Austin—then known as Steve Williams (not to be confused with former NWA and UWF star "Dr. Death" Steve Williams)—into the wrestling world. Williams was the very first graduate of Adams' new wrestling school in Dallas.

"I feel like I'm making my *own* debut all over again," said Adams after Williams won his first pro match. "I'm very proud of Steve, and I know he's going to go a long way in this sport. He certainly has the


athletic ability to do it and, if I do say so, he's had the best training a young wrestler could get anywhere."

Williams began his career by wrestling in a strictly scientific style, and wrestled only in the Dallas area. After a few months, he ventured to Memphis. Fans there soon began seeing a different man—not only in ring style, but in name as Williams decided to change his name to Steve Austin.

"I'm getting pretty damn tired of getting confused with that *other* Steve Williams all the time," said Austin, speaking more arrogantly than anyone had ever heard before. "I'm also trying to disassociate myself from every-



# "I'LL DO ANYTHING TO HELP STEVE AUSTIN DESTROY MY EX-HUSBAND!"



Steve Austin holds Chris Adams for a slap from Jeannie (opposite page). Jeannie trips her ex-husband Adams as he suplexes Austin (below).

thing in my past—and that includes Chris Adams. For months, he's been trying to take all the credit for all my success. Well, he didn't have a damn thing to do with it. I'm my *own* man, and I'm going to prove it the next time I see him."

The next time they saw each other was a significant day for both men. Austin and Adams were teammates in a tag team bout, but by the end of the match Austin had attacked his former instructor. It was clear that things were never going to be the same. And Adams never dreamed of what was about to happen next.

"One day, something really incredible happened," laughed Austin. "I got a phone call from a woman who said she hated Adams every bit as much as I did. Right away, I knew I had to meet this lady. I had a gut feeling that she'd be able to help me. Boy, was I ever right!"

That "lady" turned out to be Jeannie, who was married to Adams for several years. For some reason, Jeannie was looking to gain revenge on her former husband.

"Let's just say that Chris did me wrong," said Jeannie. "Now, I'll do *anything* to help Steve Austin destroy my ex-husband. I'm proud to announce that I'm Steve's new valet, and I'm ready to do anything it takes—and I mean *anything*—to get the job done."

Like physically attack Adams, for example. On May 4 in Dallas, Adams pinned Austin in a match at the Sportatorium. After the match, as Austin held Adams' arms behind his back, Jeannie paintbrushed his face

with several hard slaps.

"I just can't believe this," said Adams, his voice cracking with emotion. "Jeannie? I haven't seen her in years! What business does she have

near a ring? That's my ex-wife! My God, is the whole world going crazy?"

Things soon got even crazier for Adams. Emotionally drained and not

nearly at full strength, he took on Austin again a week later—and lost the bout when Jeannie sprayed hairspray in his face when Austin draped him over the top rope. It was clear that there was no way Adams could win whenever Jeannie was at ringside.

The problem was partially rectified on May 18 in Dallas, when Adams defeated Austin in an "I Quit" match where Jeannie was locked in a small cage at ringside. A week later, Adams again defeated Austin in a match where the ring was surrounded with barbed wire. But Austin and Jeannie aren't giving up the fight.

"He's finished," claims Austin. "As long as Chris has an emotional bond to both me and Jeannie, there's no way he'll ever be able to get over it. And when the time is right, Jeannie and I are going to wipe him out. We're going to cripple him so that he'll never be able to wrestle again."

But while Adams and Austin fight to gain the upper hand, many fans are wondering where Toni, Adams' *current* wife, has been. The beautiful blonde was instrumental in aiding Chris in his feud against P.Y. Chu-Hi and Tojo Yamamoto last year, but since then she's been conspicuously absent from ringside.

"Maybe that's what's needed," said Adams, "maybe I need a woman—a *real* woman—to watch my back against Jeannie. Everyone has seen Toni handle a kendo stick. Maybe Jeannie just needs a couple of swipes in the backside to get her back in line!"

But beyond this potential four-way display of marital mayhem, Jeannie says she has some secrets she's willing to tell the world.

"I'm going to write a book," threatened Jeannie. "I'm gonna spill my guts about what happened to me and Chris. And when Toni reads all about what her man has done, well, it's going to be divorce number two for little Chris."

Who knows—the most interesting part of this feud may take place not in the ring, but in the bookstores! □



Adams backdrops Austin (above) and pounds him with a chair (below). Adams is stunned not only by his ex-wife's presence, but by how Austin, the man he trained, opposes him.





# THIS MONTH IN...



## THE Wrestler



**ULTIMATE WARRIOR** wimps out!  
Learn why he won't wrestle **HULK HOGAN**!



Exclusive team coverage of the rise of **DOOM** and the fall of **RICK & SCOTT STEINER**

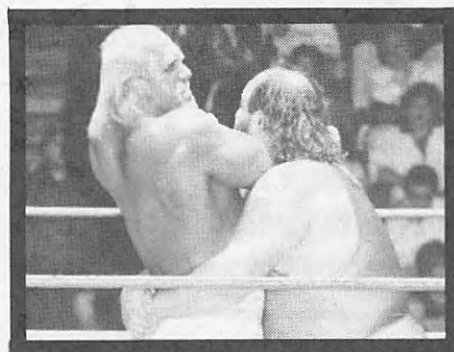
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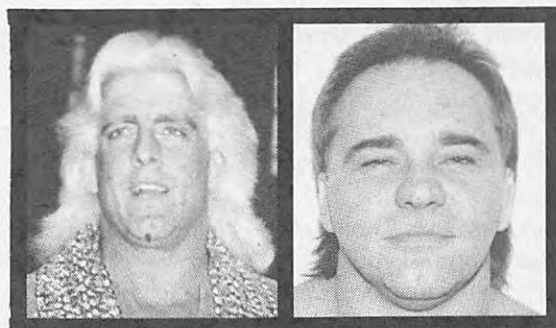
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## Wrestling 90



**HULK HOGAN** vs. **EARTHQUAKE**:  
Was this the "Hulkster's" farewell tour?



**RIC FLAIR & LARRY ZBYSZKO** on the same card! Is an NWA-AWA merger in the works?

**PLUS . . .**

**BIG BOSSMAN** lays down the law—and **TED DiBIASE'S** millions won't bail him out . . . *Wrestling 90* special analysis: When champions are injured, what's wrestling to do? . . . "Interview 90:" **SID VICIOUS** . . . **ULTIMATE WARRIOR** and **BOB BACKLIND** square off "Head To Head" . . . **STING** in the "Crossfire"

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**The telephone wires sizzle every month as two top wrestlers voice their rage and hostility toward each other. This is the unedited transcript of their conversation, your chance to see the raw emotion that results when two antagonists face off . . . One on One**

# ONE ON ONE



*"What's wrong with you, Jerry, what happened, brother? Where's the old 'King' that I used to know and love?"*

—Jimmy Valiant

**F**OR MOST OF the past two decades, Jerry Lawler and Jimmy Valiant were the closest of friends. Fans in Memphis were thrilled as Lawler and Valiant teamed to drive rulebreakers out of the city. When Valiant returned to the USWA this past spring, one of the first things he wanted to do was rekindle his long-standing friendship with Lawler.

Lawler, however, would have none of it. Unbeknownst to Valiant, Lawler had become the most feared rulebreaker in Memphis. It was hard for the "Boogie Woogie Man" to put his affection for Lawler behind him, but it was something he knew he would have to do—especially after "The King" attacked him during a television taping.

Bruised but undaunted, Valiant realized he had to teach his former friend a lesson. Lawler was scheduled to wrestle a masked man named The New York Mauler during a TV match on April 28 in Memphis, but it was obvious to everyone that the wrestler under the hood was Valiant. The pair battled to a 10-minute draw, but with the new USWA first-takedown rule in effect, Valiant beat Lawler for the USWA belt in overtime.

Valiant was happy with his victory, but he was still saddened by losing Lawler's friendship. He challenged Lawler to a "scientific" match on May 5, but Lawler used a chain to kayo Valiant and regain his belt.

Now, Lawler and Valiant are continuing their heated battles throughout

Tennessee and Texas. Still wondering what exactly is going through Lawler's twisted mind, Valiant jumped at the opportunity to speak with "The King" via telephone. The champion, however, was a little more reluctant to tie up with his estranged friend . . . "One On One."

## JERRY LAWLER:

I don't mind telling you, this "One On One" phone call is something I have little interest in doing, Jimmy. I'd much rather be doing something more important and worthwhile, like cleaning my toes or watching test patterns on the boob tube.

## JIMMY VALIANT:

Or polishing your chains, or working up some new insults for

the fans, or figuring out a way to throw fire the next time you get into the ring, or working up some new places in your ring tights to hide foreign objects. What's wrong with you, Jerry, what happened, brother? Where's the old "King" that I used to know and love, that the fans used to know and love? Where'd you go wrong?

**JL:** You mean where did I go right. You see, while you were off somewhere having your tattoos Simonized, I was right here in Memphis, honing my craft as the finest champion in this sport. And by the way, go ahead and accuse me of anything you want. I have yet to see a referee catch me doing anything illegal, so harp



# NONE



*"Go ahead and accuse me of anything you want. I have yet to see a referee catch me doing anything illegal."*

—Jerry Lawler

away.

**JV:** I don't have to harp away on nothin', man, 'cause you know and I know and the fans know what's goin' on, even if the referees don't see it. And why don't they see it? Because you hit them, you knock them out, you do things behind their backs. Hey, I've seen photographs, I've seen tapes, I've seen it all with my own eyes. You wanna be known as a cheater and a liar and a thief and a no-good son of a—hey, man, how do you sleep at night?

**JL:** I sleep like a baby, instead of whining like one, which . . .

**JV:** Wait a . . .

**JL:** . . . is what you're doing. I don't understand how you can be so holier-than-thou, anyway. Seems

to me . . .

**JV:** Just a . . .

**JL:** Seems to me I recall a little tag team by the name of The Valiant Brothers. Ah, yes, a couple of guys named "Luscious" Johnny and "Handsome" Jimmy. Managed by none other than the notorious Lou Albano. Used to use chains, metal rods, and anything else they could get their hands on. Tell me, you burned-out shell of a man, do you remember that classic tag team?

**JV:** Yeah, I remember, and let me explain a little something to you.

**JL:** What a laugh.

**JV:** Now just listen up and you might learn something here. That team, that tag team, we were together in the mid-'70s, that's damn near

20 years ago. You know, a man does a lot of thinking in 20 years or so . . .

**JL:** Oh, brother, here it comes. Let me go get my hip boots.

**JV:** . . . and if he's any kind of a man at all, he thinks enough of himself to know when he's wrong and he makes some changes.

**JL:** Anybody got a violin?

**JV:** You make changes in your life, you move ahead, you don't take steps back. Man, I did some things in my past I'm ashamed of, but I realized what I was doing wrong and I made changes, I did what I had to do to become a better person for it. You . . .

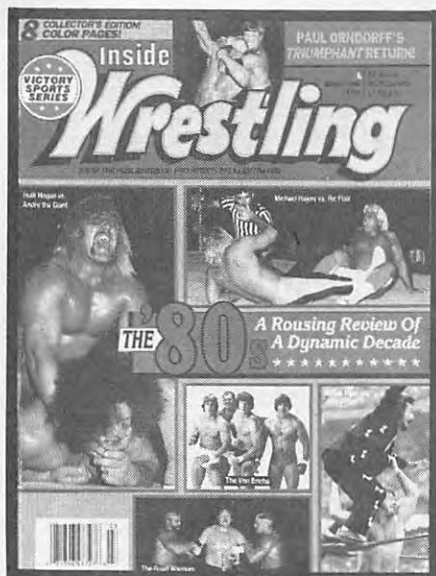
**JL:** What about me?

**JV:** You're just slippin' and slidin' back into a black pit, brother, an abyss of evil that's gonna suck you down and drown you, my man. Ain't no way in heaven or earth you can call yourself a better man today than you were five years ago, it's that simple.

**JL:** Sure, I'm not a better man today. *Hah!* That's why CBS did a big piece on me on that *People Magazine On TV* show. That's why I'm the reigning USWA champion. And that's why I'm in demand all over the country, because I'm not a better man today than I was five years ago. Jimmy, it's not the '80s anymore, so wise up. Get with the program, I'll have to pound out what few memories are left in your unwashed head.

**JV:** You're hidin', Jerry, you're hidin' from yourself and you're hidin' from your fans. Sooner or later, though, you're gonna have to see the light. We both know it, and you can't avoid it.

**JL:** I *already* see the light—I see it through one of your ears from the light on the other side of your head. I'm really sorry, Jimmy. We were friends once. Too bad you turned out to be such a has-been. See you in the news columns of the magazines, pal; I'll be the one with the championship belt around my waist . . . you'll be the one finally announcing your retirement. □



## 10 YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING!

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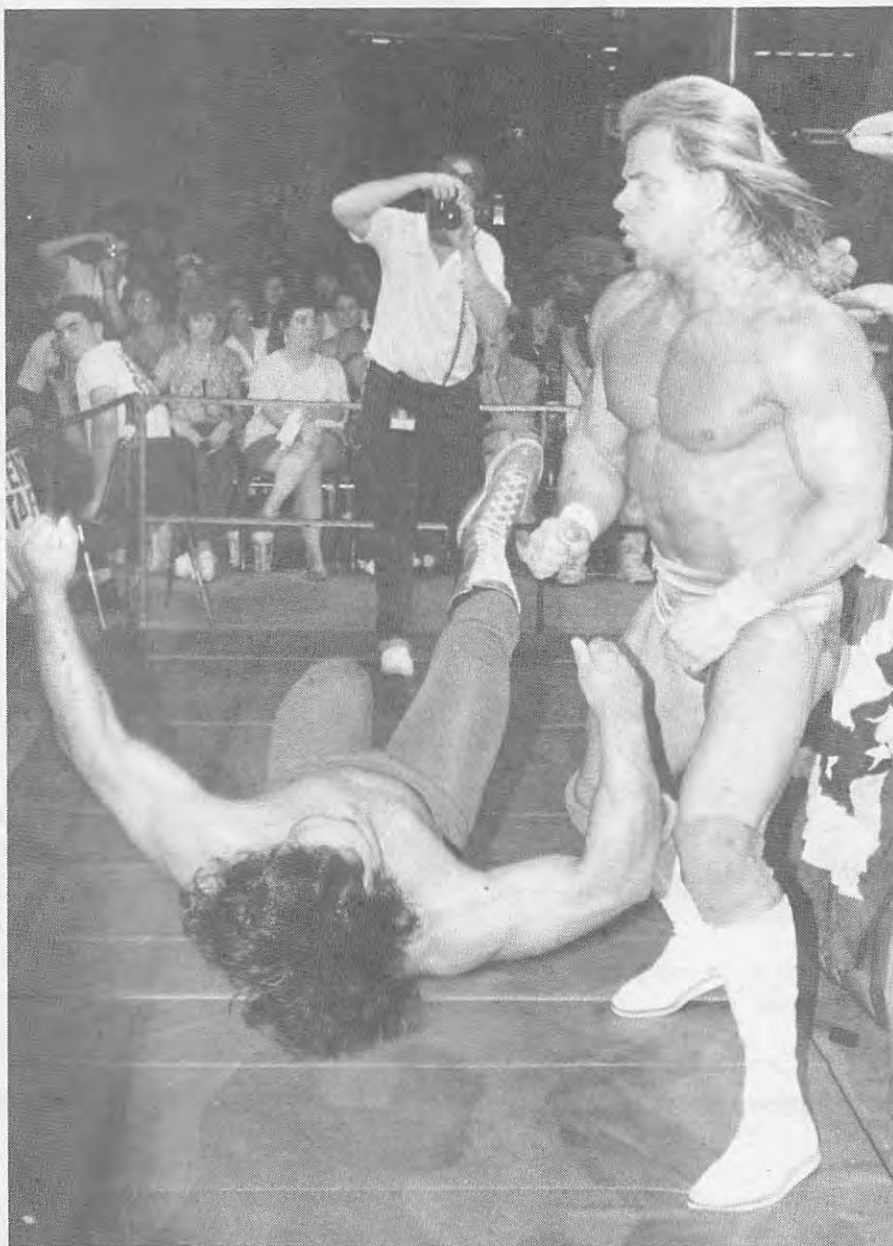
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## SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 5)



Lex Luger levels Rick Steamboat. Although Luger saved Sting on one occasion, reader Mike Gates believes the "Total Package" is still only concerned with his own well-being.

### LOUSY LUGER

Never have I seen one man deceive as many people as Lex Luger has. When he first started out, he was a rulebreaker, but he changed into a fan favorite and gave Ric Flair some tough matches for the NWA World title. In 1987, Luger decided it was time to make the big move to the NWA; he became a rulebreaker again and joined The Four Horsemen.

Then, when he got hungry for Flair's belt again, he turned good. For most of 1988, Luger came very close

to winning the NWA title, but he couldn't do it. But in 1989, something amazing happened: The fans started cheering for Flair. Luger was in danger of not getting anymore title shots, so he attacked Rick Steamboat and once again gained the hatred of the fans. And another year of Luger-Flair matches passed.

Now, after his attack of Sting, Flair is once again hated and—surprise, surprise!—Luger is a fan favorite again.

Give it up, Lex. We see right through you.



Luger is a man who doesn't care about the fans. He is totally self-involved. His rescue of Sting wasn't enough to prove anything to me. Luger is nothing more than a pumped-up jerk.

MIKE J. GATES  
Atlanta

## SMITTEN WITH TESSA

Don't get me wrong. I hate "Hollywood" John Tatum as much as the next guy. But you have to admit that the man has fantastic taste in women! When I saw the pictures of his newest valet, Tessa, in the July '90 edition



Tessa may be John Tatum's valet, but she has a fan in reader Rafael Fuentes.

("Tantalizing Tessa: Her Plan To Control Texas Wrestling"), I practically flipped! How does Tatum do it? First Missy Hyatt, and now the devastatingly beautiful Tessa. Wow!

And from reading the story, I can see that Tessa is much more than just a pretty face. I really believe that she knows what it takes to be a real force in the wrestling world. Tatum has al-

(Continued on page 48)

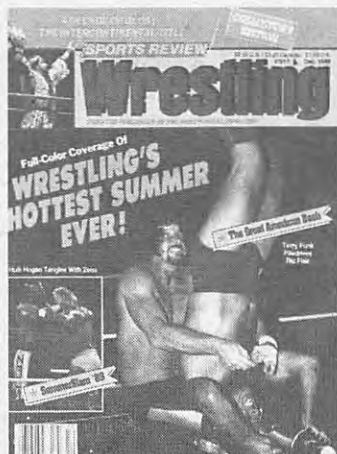
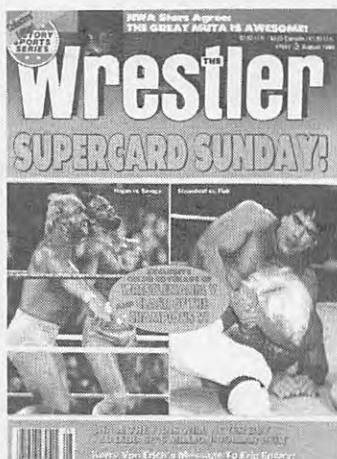
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### ◀ SPECIAL ISSUE #2

A dynamic special section in the April 1989 issue of *Inside Wrestling* offered four pages of FULL-COLOR coverage of: The Survivor Series, SuperClash III, Battlestar 88, and Clash of the Champions—Season's Beatings. Plus, an in-depth analysis places all these cards in historical perspective.

### ◀ SPECIAL ISSUE #3

The December 1989 issue of *Sports Review Wrestling* called it "Wrestling's Hottest Summer Ever!"—and indeed it was! In that issue, readers saw four pages of glorious FULL-COLOR coverage of the NWA's Great American Bash and the WWF's SummerSlam '89. A very special editorial section offered exclusive in-depth analysis of both events.

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## SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 47)

ready won the USWA Southwestern title once under her guidance. I'd bet that he can beat Jerry Lawler for the USWA belt if he just keeps listening to her.

Some guys have all the luck!

RAFAEL FUENTES

Dallas

### LAWDING LAWLER

What's the problem with you guys? Why does your magazine always find a way to make Jerry Lawler out to be evil? You are talking about a man who has held the AWA World title, CWA title, and is currently the USWA champion. So what if he used foreign objects to obtain some victories? Who hasn't?

Lawler is a wily veteran who uses his intelligence to defeat idiots such as Kerry Von Erich and Jeff Jarrett. A



man of Lawler's talent and desire is very rare indeed. It seems to me that the Memphis fans have too quickly forgotten how Lawler ran all their most hated men out of town.

The fans of Memphis never deserved Lawler. Only his *true* fans do.

ROBERT KELLER

Kanoeh Bay, HI

Jerry Lawler has a tenuous relationship with the fans. Correspondent Robert Keller can't understand how they can turn against a man who's been so successful.

NWA has changed, just like the WWF did. Wake up and be an unbiased magazine.

FRANK TANTALO

Elmont, NY

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### UNFAIR BIAS

I'm writing in regard to a comment made by Craig Peters in his "On The Road" column in the June 1990 issue.

In his column, Peters states that a lot of kids watch wrestling and shouldn't be exposed to the NWA's blatant plugging of Coors beer. I agree with this. But then Peters noted that the NWA now uses Roos sneakers as a sponsor, and wrote that the commercials NWA stars do for the sneakers is "fun stuff."

If the WWF did something like this, Peters would have jumped all over them, as would any writer for *Inside Wrestling*. I think Rick Steiner's commercial is just as stupid as Dusty Rhodes' pizza man skits.

While I'm a big fan of both the NWA and WWF, both promotions rely on silly gimmicks to promote their wrestlers, not just the WWF. The

### A TRUE LEGEND

I just had to write to comment on Eddie Ellner's "Insider" column on Bobo Brazil in the July 1990 issue. While I agree that wrestling every year since 1951 is a remarkable achievement, I can only wonder how Brazil would fare against any kind of real competition. After all, the man is 61 years old!

Let's face it. The kind of men that Brazil faces in dingy small-time Michigan-area arenas is hardly representative of pro wrestling as it is presented today. If you put Brazil in the ring with anyone listed in your ratings, there's no doubt in my mind that he would quickly get wiped out.

So let us all cheer Brazil as he bravely gets into the ring. Let's just hope he doesn't do it one time too often.

LARRY PETERSON

Omaha, NB □



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## INSIDE WRESTLING

☐ SEPT 74 ☐ APR 79 ☐ SEPT 82 ☐ NOV 84 ☐ OCT 86 ☐ OCT 88  
☐ NOV 74 ☐ JUNE 79 ☐ OCT 82 ☐ DEC 84 ☐ NOV 86 ☐ DEC 88  
☐ AUG 75 ☐ JULY 79 ☐ NOV 82 ☐ JAN 85 ☐ DEC 86 ☐ JAN 89  
☐ SEPT 75 ☐ SEPT 79 ☐ DEC 82 ☐ FEB 85 ☐ JAN 87 ☐ FEB 89  
☐ FEB 76 ☐ FEB 80 ☐ FEB 83 ☐ MAR 85 ☐ FEB 87 ☐ MAR 89  
☐ MAR 76 ☐ APR 80 ☐ MAR 83 ☐ APR 85 ☐ MAR 87 ☐ MAY 89  
☐ APR 76 ☐ MAY 80 ☐ APR 83 ☐ MAY 85 ☐ APR 87 ☐ JUNE 89  
☐ AUG 76 ☐ JUNE 80 ☐ MAY 83 ☐ JUNE 85 ☐ MAY 87 ☐ JULY 89  
☐ SEPT 76 ☐ AUG 80 ☐ JUNE 83 ☐ JULY 85 ☐ JUNE 87 ☐ AUG 89  
☐ OCT 76 ☐ SEPT 80 ☐ JULY 83 ☐ AUG 85 ☐ JULY 87 ☐ SEPT 89  
☐ NOV 76 ☐ NOV 80 ☐ AUG 83 ☐ SEPT 85 ☐ AUG 87 ☐ OCT 89  
☐ DEC 76 ☐ JAN 81 ☐ SEPT 83 ☐ OCT 85 ☐ SEPT 87 ☐ NOV 89  
☐ JAN 77 ☐ APR 81 ☐ OCT 83 ☐ NOV 85 ☐ OCT 87 ☐ DEC 89  
☐ AUG 77 ☐ MAY 81 ☐ NOV 83 ☐ DEC 85 ☐ NOV 87 ☐ JAN 90  
☐ SEPT 77 ☐ JUNE 81 ☐ DEC 83 ☐ JAN 86 ☐ DEC 87 ☐ FEB 90  
☐ OCT 77 ☐ SEPT 81 ☐ MAR 84 ☐ FEB 86 ☐ JAN 88 ☐ APR 90  
☐ NOV 77 ☐ FEB 82 ☐ APR 84 ☐ MAR 86 ☐ FEB 88 ☐ MAY 90  
☐ DEC 77 ☐ MAR 82 ☐ MAY 84 ☐ APR 86 ☐ MAR 88 ☐ JUNE 90  
☐ MAR 78 ☐ APR 82 ☐ JUNE 84 ☐ MAY 86 ☐ APR 88 ☐ JULY 90  
☐ APR 78 ☐ MAY 82 ☐ JULY 84 ☐ JUNE 86 ☐ MAY 88  
☐ DEC 78 ☐ JUNE 82 ☐ AUG 84 ☐ JULY 86 ☐ JUNE 88  
☐ JAN 79 ☐ JULY 82 ☐ SEPT 84 ☐ AUG 86 ☐ JULY 88  
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## DRESSING ROOM DOOR

(Continued from page 8)

expectations for Muta, especially since Muta finally seems to have his priorities in order. He's even talking to the press these days.

"There is still much to learn," Muta said. "I know what I have to do, and I have what it takes to do it, but I must learn to put these two things together. That is what will make me a great wrestler."

Perhaps success came too quickly for Muta. The thing is, most people thought Muta was exactly the kind of person that could handle success. He is a master of the mental game, too. Unfortunately, Muta didn't have the mind to handle failure. Maybe it's in his blood.

"It is very difficult," said Mr. Saito. "We are brought up to be successful in what we do. We learn that if we work hard, we will get our rewards. He worked hard and did not get his rewards. Maybe he did not work hard enough."

"I think it was his manager," Sting said. "Hart is only out for his own good, and he did absolutely nothing to nurture Muta. I still think Muta is one of the hottest prospects in this sport, and if he ever comes back to the NWA, he's gonna be real dangerous."

"If I am wrestling better, and to be honest, I think I am wrestling as well as ever before, but if there is a significant strength I have, it is that I believe in myself," Muta said. "And I will do whatever is necessary to achieve my goals. You must remember: The American press called me greatest young star in this sport. For one of the few times ever, the press was right."

\*\*\*

Tantalizing Tessa.

Here we go again.

Move aside, John Tatum, and let us guys have a look.

Well, she has the conformation: blonde hair, long legs, a fine col-



John Tatum's latest valet is Tessa, who is not hesitant to interfere in Tatum's matches. Dave Rosenbaum warns Tatum that Tessa's loyalty is questionable.

lection of miniskirts, spiked heels, and good camera angles.

When it came to women, Texans always had the good camera angles.

"I am the hottest woman in wrestling," Tessa said. "I make Missy Hyatt look like a barking dog."

I beg your pardon, Tessa, but there's Missy and then there's everyone else. You, Tessa, are a dime a dozen.

Keep the change, thank you.

The best part of this whole situation is that Tatum, the man who is bringing us Tessa, also brought us Missy. The question is, who's gonna steal the woman from him this time?

Eddie Gilbert, of course, is still married. Billy Travis, it seems, might be ready to take his shot.

"She's the kind of girl that can use a bit of cleaning up," Travis said with a laugh. "Once she does that, I think she could make a great housewife."

"Housewife?" Tessa responded in horror. "I don't bow to nobody."

Moments later, Tessa held the ropes open for her beau Tatum.

Her *latest* beau, that is. A brief investigation of the Dallas/Ft. Worth nightlife revealed that Tatum is merely the latest in a long line of men that Tessa has used, abused, and tossed aside.

Enjoy yourself while it lasts, Tatum, but don't get too carried away. Save your money on the engagement ring. Don't make any kind of commitment.

Tessa still looks like she's on the prowl. □



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**April 1985/COLOR PINUP:** Ronnie Garvin, Jimmy Snuka, Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

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**November 1985/COLOR PINUP:** Randy Savage. **Ric Flair**, Slaughter, Steamboat, World Class scouting reports.

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**April 1986/COLOR PINUP:** Ric Flair. **Wendi Richter**, Adams & Hernandez, Dusty & Warriors vs. Flair & Andersons.

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**June 1986/COLOR PINUP:** Kevin Von Erich. **Hulk Hogan**, Adams, Duggan, Scott Hall.

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**August 1986/COLOR PINUP:** Dusty Rhodes. **Randy Savage**, Lugar vs. Race, Blanchard vs. Flair, Rude.

**October 1986/COLOR PINUP:** John Studd. **Nikita Koloff**, Savage vs. Bundy, Landell, Flair vs. Lugar, Simpson.

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**January 1987/COLOR PINUP:** Fabulous Freebirds. **Roddy Piper**, Nikita vs. T.A., Snuka, Simpson.

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**May 1987/COLOR PINUP:** Steve Williams. **Andre-Hogan**, UWF Tourny, Albano, Cornette, Dynamite Kid, Kerry.

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**December 1989/COLOR PINUP:** Jimmy Snuka. **Luger**, Vicious, Muta, Sting, Beefcake & Hogan, Tully & Arn.

**January 1990/COLOR PINUP:** Sid Vicious. **Ultimate**, Cornette, Ross, Kerry.

**February 1990/COLOR PINUP:** Bret Hart. **Lex Luger**, Hogan, Hennig-Beefcake, Toni Adams, Woman.

**April 1990/COLOR PINUP:** Dusty Rhodes. **Ric Flair**, Hennig vs. Hogan, Sting, Rockers, Lawler.

**May 1990/COLOR PINUP:** The Great Muta. **Hulk Hogan**, Skyscrapers, R&R Express, Piper, Embury.

**June 1990/COLOR PINUP:** Sting. **Hogan vs. Warrior**, R&R Express, Rhodes vs. Savage, Arn vs. Sawyer.

**July 1990/COLOR PINUP:** Rick Martel. **Lex Luger**, Beefcake, Skyscrapers, Heenan, Saito, referees.

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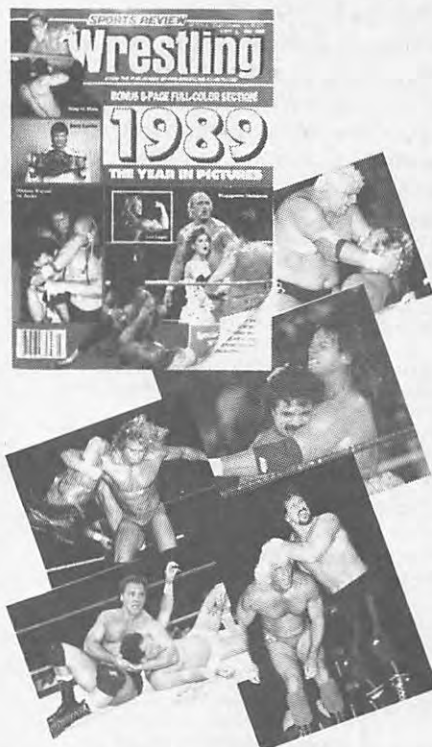
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## THE INSIDER

(Continued from page 14)

team of Col. Sanders and Frank Perdue comes a-calling.

On the other hand, WWF President Jack Tunney is a *laissez-faire* leader, allowing the ring to drip with blood if necessary, as long as the wrestlers involved police each other and, presumably, sell tickets by the truckload.

Will the *real* Jack Tunney please stand up?

Frankly, I prefer the do-nothing Tunney to the take-action Tunney.

The take-action Tunney wants to clamp down on violence and eke out decent WWF matches with an eyedropper? Fine by me. I couldn't care less, because most

of the wrestling in the WWF is crap, anyway. For every Hulk Hogan vs. Ultimate Warrior classic, there seem to be 500 Bushwhackers vs. Rhythm 'n' Blues catastrophes, with a few dozen Nikolai Volkoff vs. Boris Zukhov bouts thrown in for good measure.

The do-nothing Tunney wants to let the wrestlers go at it? Terrific! But for every Earthquake who wants to shake things up in the federation, there are a dozen or more men like Terry Taylor, Ted DiBiase, Curt Hennig, and Rick

Preventing Earthquake from executing his big splash may not be on Tunney's list of priorities, but maybe it should be.





Martel: formerly superb *wrestlers* who have thrown in the towel for the sake of a cartoon countenance and a fat wallet. You think Tunney proclaiming that the wrestlers should be cut loose is going to change the WWF all that much? I'll believe it when I see it.

In the final analysis, federation presidents don't do all that much, anyway. Consider:

AWA President Joe Blanchard banned maneuvers from the top rope a couple of months back. What happened? The Destruction Crew is *still* attempting to decapitate hapless opponents with the top-rope clothesline; and all the better for Mike Enos and Wayne Bloom, since their repeated disqualifications ensure that their AWA World tag team title reign remains intact.

USWA President Max Andrews changed some rules in that federation. Eliminated any possibility of matches ending in draws, and instituted a thing called the "technical loss rule." If a match reaches the time limit with no winner, the first man to score a takedown during the overtime period wins. What happened? Jerry Lawler was dethroned and Jimmy Valiant became USWA champion for a couple of weeks.

Both examples demonstrate how shortsighted federation presidents can be, and how fundamentally flawed and insignificant their supposedly major decisions actually are. The concept of "cause and effect" is as far removed from the minds of the sport's top brass as a front chin-to-chest neck-crank and shoulder-pin is from the scientific repertoire of Abdullah the Butcher.

I don't ask for genius from Tunney, and I certainly don't expect any great revelations or proclamations to emanate from behind his oak-paneled office doors. But is consistency too much to ask?

Apparently so. ☐

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## ON ASSIGNMENT

(Continued from page 16)

upon which it was based. Perhaps the two people involved really didn't have that much in common to begin with. Perhaps it was a friendship of convenience.

Sure, the same things can be said of many marriages. But marriage is, in my opinion, a sacred institution, and ought not be entered into lightly. A lot of the problems society faces today are amplified by the fact that the family unit is being destroyed. Marriage ought to be, like the diamond in an engagement ring, forever; anything less insults the institution and chips away at the structural underpinnings of society as a whole.

And when Austin parades Jeannie in front of the fans at an arena, or in front of the television cameras in a TV studio, he is making a mockery of the institution of marriage. He is, in effect, making an implicit endorsement of a very sad state of affairs in our country today: that marriage, like cigarette lighters and cameras and styrofoam hamburger containers, has become just another disposable consumer commodity.

"Aw, Liz, what the hell's your deal?" Austin sneered. "You know, that's half the problem with you journalists today, you're always trying to make something out of nothing. A mountain out of a molehill. You know, you can take your hotshot college education and say all you want about me and Jeannie and come up with fancy theories and all, but the fact of the matter is that you're making a much bigger thing out of this than you should."

"As far as I'm concerned," Jeannie told me, "it's *Chris* who has made a mockery of our marriage. I'm can't say everything I want to say about it—yet—but be-



Jeannie is ready to use a spray can on Adams, who is sprawled on the floor. Liz Hunter scolds Austin for using Jeannie as a psychological weapon against Adams.

lieve this: If the truth be told, and someday it probably will, Chris would come out of this looking like quite a snake, and you'd be singing a very different tune, Liz."

Meanwhile, there's some *good* news on the USWA female front, where one woman seems about ready to stand up for her rights.

During a recent card in Dallas, John Tatum was wrestling Bill Dundee; Tessa was on hand as a second to Tatum. When Tatum was about to execute a maneuver off the top rope, Tessa shook the ropes, causing him to fall to the canvas, and directly leading to Dundee's pinfall victory. As a result of the win over Tatum, Dundee also "won" Tessa.

I asked Tessa about the incident, and she was remarkably tight-lipped about the whole affair. But she did have something to say about the unusual match stip-

ulation in which her valet services were placed on the line.

"I've been getting a lot of criticism for that," she told me, "but people don't understand. Look, let's be honest, wrestling is a man's sport. And sometimes, when a woman gets involved, things happen or stipulations are presented that may seem sexist.

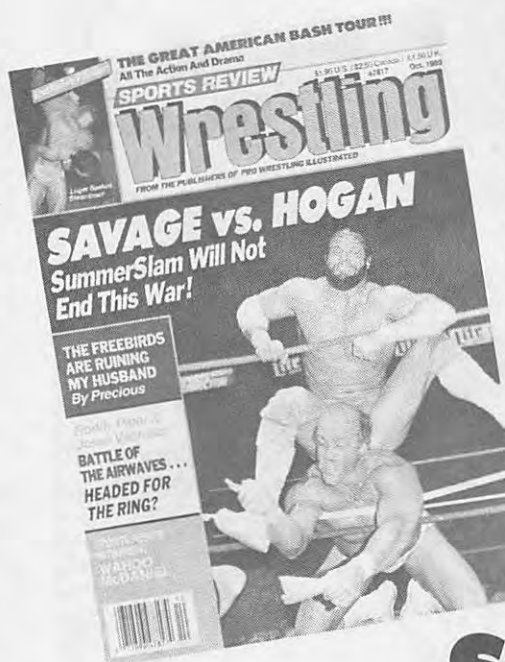
"But you have to look at the bigger picture," Tessa continued. "Don't look at the stipulation in the match, look at how Tatum has treated me in the past—and how he stands to be treated in the future. And remember: What goes around comes around. That's all I have to say about that."

Maybe Tessa is right, maybe wrestling *is* a man's world. If that's the case, it's because pin-headed jerks like Tatum and Austin do their damndest to keep it that way. □



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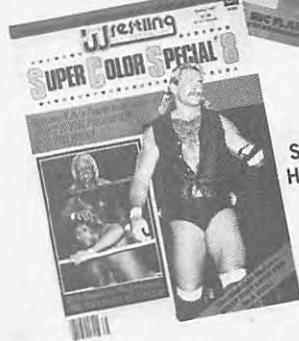


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## MIDNIGHT EXPRESS

(Continued from page 29)



Pillman prevents himself from being pinned by Eaton (above and below). The battles between these teams have been particularly hard-fought.



Express could change all that.

And Cornette has Lane and Eaton primed for victory. In one of the first defenses of their title, on May 24 in Memphis, Tennessee, Eaton and Lane took on the awesome force of The Road Warriors. Coming into the match, the Express once again found themselves as underdogs. But when Lane smashed Animal with Cornette's loaded tennis racket, the Express came up with that rarest of victories: a pinfall win over The Legion of Doom.

"With a few more wins under our belts, there's no way that Doom—or the NWA officials—can ignore us," an ecstatic Cornette said after the Memphis match. "We've won the U.S. belts, and now we've cleanly defeated the

Warriors. I don't want anybody telling me we can't clean Doom's clocks."

Few would argue that the Express has erased any recent doubts about their championship prowess. But they seem to have forgotten about their biggest rivals of the past eight months.

"Cornette's ignoring us, and that's dangerous for him," said Pillman, who, along with Zenk, still covets the U.S. tag team title. "Hey, they're playing right into our hands. While they're trying to figure out a way to get title matches against Doom, we're gonna sneak up behind 'em and take our belts back.

"Believe me," Pillman added, "they won't have the chance to be double-champions again, because they're not through with us yet!" □



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 September 1988/Predictions Through 1998, Williams, Rhodes, Bad Company, greatest Garden matches.  
 October 1988/Midnight Rockers, Sting, Taylor, Koloff, Hot Young Lions.  
 November 1988/R&R Express, Honky Tonk, Von Erichs, Great American Bash.  
 December 1988/Warriors, Samoan SWAT Team, Hart, Andre, Presidential Wrestlers.

January 1989/Jake-Cheryl-Rude, Sting, Lawler, Flair, Savage's career.  
 February 1989/The Champions in '89, Duggan, Roberts, 1989 datebook.  
 April 1989/Starrcade '88, Savage-Hogan, Funk-Mulligan, Heenan, Abdullah.  
 May 1989/Royal Rumble, *WrestleMania*, Rhodes, Lawler, Horsemen.  
 June 1989/Ch-Town Rumble, Hogan-Towers, R&R Express, Rougeaus.  
 July 1989/WrestleMania V, Sting, Steamboat, Martel vs. Rude, Embry.  
 August 1989/Luger & Sting, Ultimate, Flair's personal photos, Bulldogs.  
 September 1989/Duggan, *Wrestle War*, Rhodes, Flair-Steamboat, Japan.  
 October 1989/Great American Bash, Piper-Ventura, Savage-Hogan.  
 November 1989/Hogan's toughest matches, Snuka, Sting, Skyscrapers.  
 January 1990/Savage, Woman-Steiner, Vi-cious, fattest wrestlers.  
 February 1990/Piper, Kerry, Muta & Luger vs. Flair, Datebook.  
 April 1990/Starrcade '89, Roberts, Williams, Diamond, Five to watch.  
 May 1990/Hogan, Royal Rumble, Piper, Zbyszko-Sammartino, Nord.  
 June 1990/Hogan vs. Warrior, *Wrestle War '90*, Saito, Andre, Paul E.  
 July 1990/WrestleMania VI, Cornette, Sullivan vs. Norman, Ole.

## SPORTS REVIEW WRESTLING

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## HACKSAW DUGGAN

(Continued from page 31)

But the fans are still on his side, so everything was fine for Duggan. Despite the losses, Hacksaw remains one of the most popular men in the WWF.

And that's all that seems to matter to him.

Sooner or later, however, he will want something more.

Eventually, Duggan won't be able to withstand the pain. The nightly humiliation will be too great.

Duggan has been in the WWF for over three years. He has never won a title. He has never, in fact, come *close* to winning a title. He has no tag team partner. He generally feuds with the man the fans hate most. Once it was Bravo. Now it's Earthquake.

Who's next? Step right up ... be the next man to kick the living daylights out of Hacksaw Duggan!

Beat up on America!

"It's sad," Williams said. "The man's got a whole lot of talent, but he let it slip away."

Some of that talent was on display at WrestleMania VI, when Duggan scored a rare pinfall victory over Bravo. It was a sensational win under sensational circumstances.

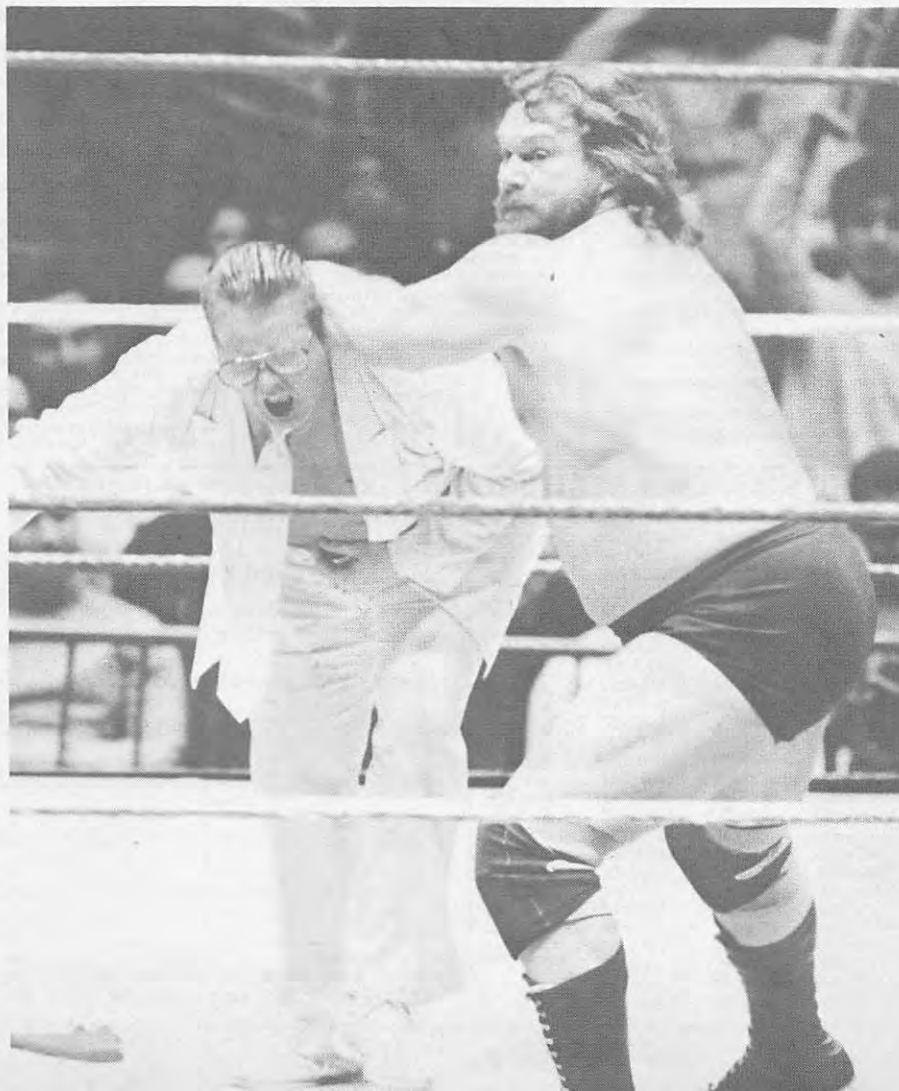
"He fed off of the crowd," WWF expert Thomas Pilliard said. "That was one instance where Duggan's popularity was enough. There were so many people there, all of them cheering him on, that it just fed his adrenaline. It got him built up to a feverish pitch and he became unbeatable."

WrestleMania, however, comes only once a year. Duggan beatings, unfortunately, come far more frequently.

It is clearly time for Duggan to step back and look at his career. Surely, he should not disavow his commitment to honesty and integ-



With Earthquake at ringside, Duggan didn't stand much of a chance against Dino Bravo (above). At least Hacksaw doesn't have trouble disposing of Brother Love (below).





ity. The sport needs more men like Duggan, men who won't let rulebreakers dominate and denigrate the legacy of the squared circle.

But Duggan's energies seem to be split between satisfying the fans and satisfying his own competitive instinct. He should not worry about the fans, they will always be there for him. But he should be worrying about winning; he ought to be formulating new



Even when Hacksaw was "king" of the WWF, he was more concerned with being popular than with winning.

strategies and expand upon his wrestling skills. With the fans fueling his ambition, fabulous things are possible.

Being popular is nice, but it isn't enough. When a wrestler loses his competitive instinct, it's time to leave the ring behind.

If that instinct is still there, it's been drowned out by the fans' cheers.

It's time for that instinct to return to the forefront. It's time for the *real* Hacksaw Duggan to return. ☐

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# AWESOME FOURSOME

(Continued from page 33)

fallen comrade. "Seems to me I owed you one for saving my butt from the Horsemen back at *Wrestle War '90*. I'd have probably ended up back in the hospital if it hadn't been for you."

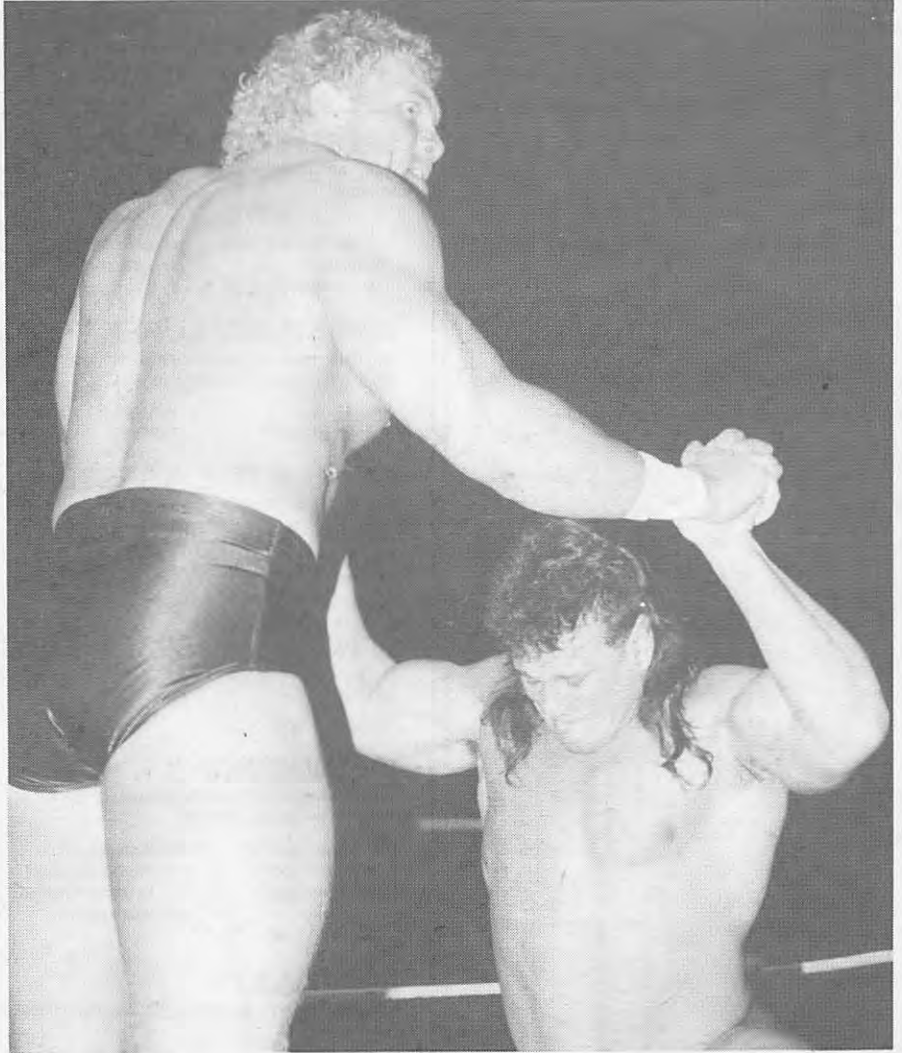
The door to the private room swung open, and two more men walked in. One brought a bouquet of flowers, while the other held a large box of candy; half of the candies were eaten, though, by the time Scott and Rick Steiner entered the room.

"Er, sorry, Lex," said Rick sheepishly. "I guess I got a little hungry on the way up here in the elevator."

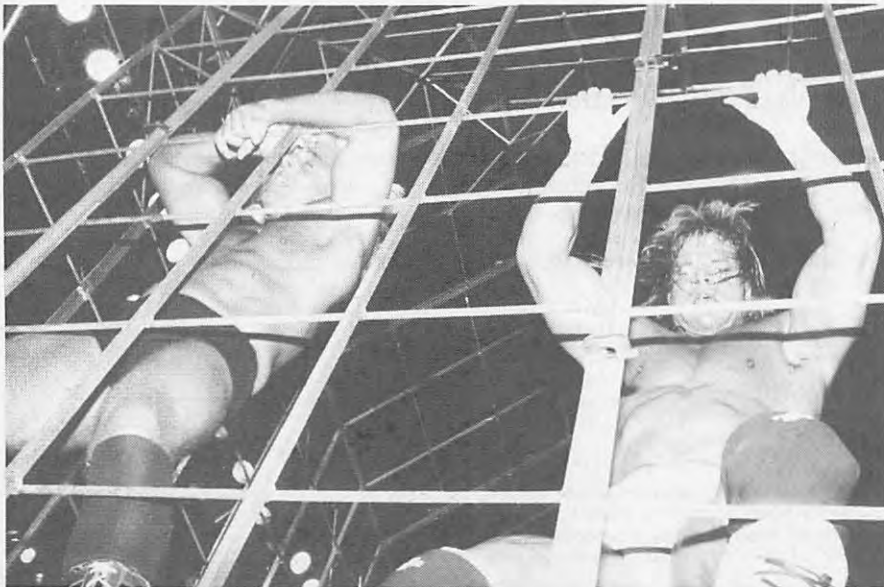
"Don't worry about it, Rick," laughed Luger as he reached out to shake Steiner's hand. "I don't need any candy with the diet I'm on right now, anyway. All that's important is that you guys are here."

For more than an hour, Luger, Sting and the Steiners talked about wrestling and life in the NWA—and, as always, the conversation wound its way back to Flair and the Horsemen.

"I've really had it with those creeps," said Sting. "Look at what they've done so far. They put me out of action for four months with my



Even Scott Steiner has a hard time with the powerful Sid Vicious, the newest Horseman (above). Flair and Luger climb the cage at "*Capital Combat '90*" (below). Luger, Sting, and the Steiners realize they must band together to fight the Horsemen.



ruptured left patella. Now they've hurt you, Lex, to the point where you've spent too much valuable time in the hospital. And even Rick and Scott here have been affected. Remember how Ole and Arn attacked you guys before your tag team match at *Wrestle War*? Those Horsemen will beat on anybody anytime they feel like it."

"Damn straight," agreed Scott Steiner. "But I think you proved a lot at *Capital Combat*, Sting. For instance, when you came out with *El Gigante*, the Horsemen scattered like flies. You don't even have to outnumber those cowards. As long as there are as many of us as there are of them, nobody really has anything to worry about."

With those words, all four men grew



silent, but all were smiling. All four tried to make the next statement, but Luger beat them to the punch.

"So let's not let 'em run wild anymore!" said Luger happily. "Just look at the talent that's sitting in this room. If we all stick together, there's no way the Horsemen can beat us, even if they do have Sid Vicious and Barry Windham around. Let's put together our own group of Horsemen!"

"Yeah, right!" said Rick Steiner, leaping out of his chair. "We can have our own name, too. Let's call ourselves The Awesome Foursome!"

With that, all four men grasped hands. It was clear that a new resolve was made among these fan favorites, and it couldn't have come at a better time. Ever since the Horsemen added Windham and Vicious to the group, the evil quartet has scaled new heights of sadism and brutality.

But now, the sides have been evened. This new "Awesome Foursome" is committed to keeping the Horsemen at bay—and keeping the NWA safe from further injuries.

"This just doesn't have to be for our benefit," said Luger. "There have been other guys who have wrestled the Horsemen who have had a bad time of it. Look at Junkyard Dog, Norman, and Tommy Rich, for example. There's no reason why we can't help them, too."

"The big thing is that we keep the pressure on the Horsemen and never lighten up," said Sting. "I'm not ready to wrestle yet, but I can sure as hell be at the arenas to make sure that trouble doesn't break out. That way, if the Horsemen attack somebody, nobody ever gets hurt again."

And that's the biggest reason why this new foursome is so important. The NWA talent base has been depleted in recent months, with many top wrestlers going on the disabled list because of Horsemen attacks. Now, the sides have been evened.

The Four Horsemen vs. The Awesome Foursome. The stage is set for the battle of the year.

Already, the Horsemen don't seem quite as awesome as they used to. □

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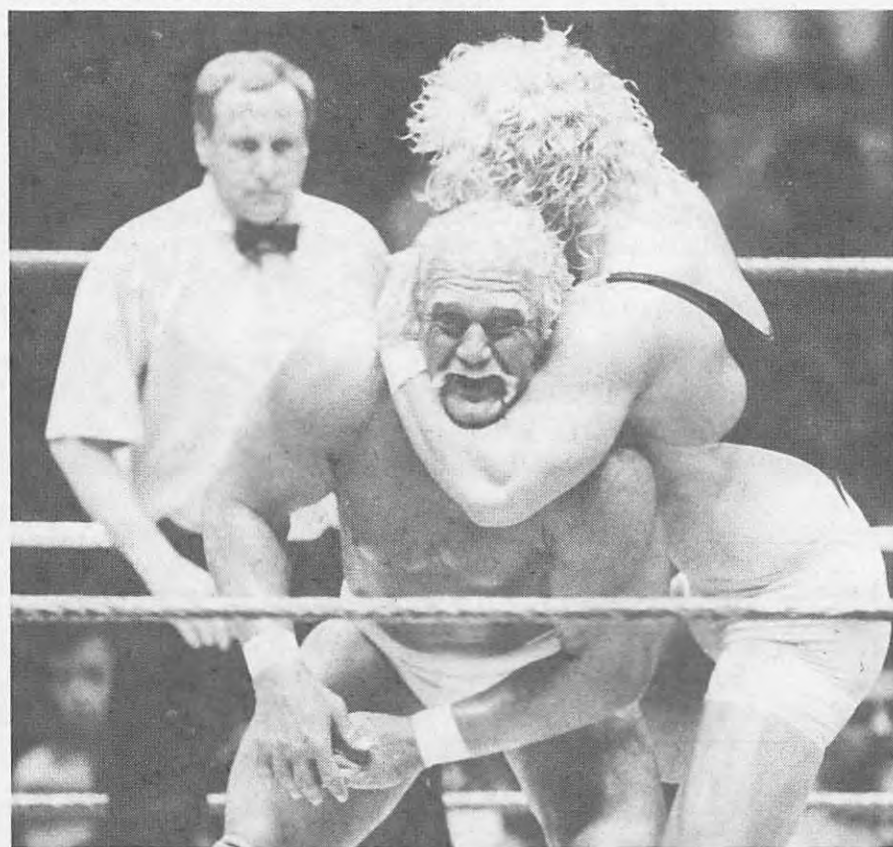
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# HULK HOGAN

(Continued from page 35)



When Hogan left the ring after losing the World title to The Ultimate Warrior at WrestleMania VI (above), a new phase of his career began. When Hogan wrestles Curt Hennig now (below), *he*, not Hennig, is the one without a belt.



quake several times a week, Hogan was still thinking about the Warrior. He was angry at WWF officials for not granting him a rematch. After all,

who did more than Hogan to build the WWF?

Hogan is the WWF—and nobody knows that more than Hogan. *They*

*owe me*, Hogan must have thought. But when it came down to payback time, they came up emptyhanded.

Hogan must also be angry at the Warrior for not demanding a rematch. Who knew whether the Warrior's victory was a fluke? Didn't Hogan have Warrior pinned while referee Dave Hebner was unconscious? Didn't the Warrior need a rematch to solidify his standing as the rightful WWF World champion?

It never happened.

And where were the fans? Why didn't they rally to Hogan's side? Wasn't he always there for them? Where were the boycotts? Where were the strikes? Where were the angry anti-Tunney chants? Where were the banners? The fans have basically deserted Hogan in his time of need.

It made him angry. It made it impossible for him to keep his mind on business. So when he wrestled Earthquake, he thought about the Warrior. When he was being interviewed by Brother Love, he never expected that Earthquake would attack him from behind.

His mind was on other things.

The old Hogan, however, *never*



would have allowed himself to get sneak-attacked by Earthquake.

The old Hogan, after all, was never consumed by bitterness and hatred.

What's worse, the Warrior made him this way. The WWF did it to him. And the fans . . . where have the fans been?

Now Hogan's on the sidelines, nursing his injuries, hoping and praying to be back in the ring in time for SummerSlam '90.

And on the issue of a Hogan-Warrior rematch, the WWF has remained conspicuously silent.

"The WWF does have a history of mistreating its former champions," *Inside Wrestling* veteran columnist Matt Brock said. "Out of sight, out of mind. They never say a word about Bruno Sammartino anymore. Superstar Graham's forgotten, Iron Sheik was pushed aside, and they really dug their claws into Bob Backlund. But I never thought they'd mistreat Hogan. In my opinion, he has every right to be bitter."

The WWF doesn't like to see the spotlight shared. Right now, the Warrior is World champion and gets all the attention. In fact, WWF officials might even be relieved that Hogan is injured and out of the picture.

Hogan, however, should have been ready for anything. He should have been saying to himself, "Where's Earthquake? Why is Hart out here without his man?"

Had that been the case, Hogan would not have been victimized by such a devastating and despicable attack.

Perhaps it is best that Hogan was injured. Now he can reflect on his career and his future. He can decide whether wrestling should continue to be a part of his life. Perhaps he can come to grips with the reality of the situation and take matters into his own hands.

Bitterness does not look good on Hogan. It has never been his way. It landed him in the hospital, and it could spell the end of his career.

For Hulk Hogan to fade into retirement a bitter man would be the greatest tragedy of all. ☐

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# INSIDE WRESTLING'S OFFICIAL RATINGS

## TOP 15

- 1—**ULTIMATE WARRIOR**  
(2) WWF World champion
- 2—**RIC FLAIR**  
(1) NWA World champion
- 3—**LEX LUGER**  
(4) U.S. champion

- 4—**RICK RUDE**  
(6) No. 2 contender: WWF title
- 5—**CURT HENNIG**  
(7) WWF I-C champion
- 6—**JERRY LAWLER**  
(5) USWA champion
- 7—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**  
(8) AWA World champion

- 8—**DUSTY RHODES**  
(11) No. 6 contender: WWF title
- 9—**BILLY JACK HAYNES**  
(-) No. 1 contender: PNW title
- 10—**MATT BORNE**  
(-) USWA Texas champion
- 11—**BILL DUNDEE**  
(10) USWA Southwestern champ

- 12—**KERRY VON ERICH**  
(9) No. 1 contender: Texas title
- 13—**TONY ATLAS**  
(12) ICW champion
- 14—**NIKITA KOLOFF**  
(13) No. 1 contender: AWA title
- 15—**JUNKYARD DOG**  
(-) No. 2 contender: NWA title

## NWA

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**  
(1) 243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**LEX LUGER**  
(2) 268, Chicago, IL
- 3—**JUNKYARD DOG**  
(-) 305, Charlotte, NC

- 4—**NORMAN**  
(3) 380, Saginaw, MI
- 5—**MARK CALLOUS**  
(12) 320, Dallas, TX
- 6—**MIKE ROTUNDO**  
(4) 245, Syracuse, NY
- 7—**BAM BAM BIGELOW**  
(10) 368, Mt. Laurel, NJ

- 8—**DOUG FURNAS**  
(-) 265, Commerce, OK
- 9—**BRIAN PILLMAN**  
(5) 226, Cincinnati, OH
- 10—**BARRY WINDHAM**  
(-) 263, Sweetwater, TX
- 11—**STAN HANSEN**  
(-) 322, Borger, TX

- 12—**ARN ANDERSON**  
(-) 249, Minneapolis, MN
- 13—**TOMMY RICH**  
(7) 248, Hendersonville, TN
- 14—**PAUL ORNDORFF**  
(-) 253, Brandon, FL
- 15—**CACTUS JACK**  
(9) 247, Truth or Cons., NM

## WWF

- 1—**ULTIMATE WARRIOR**  
(1) 280, Queens, NY
- 2—**CURT HENNIG**  
(2) 235, Minneapolis, MN
- 3—**RICK RUDE**  
(3) 246, Robbinsdale, MN

- 4—**EARTHQUAKE**  
(5) 462, Montreal, Quebec
- 5—**BRUTUS BEEFCAKE**  
(12) 273, San Francisco, CA
- 6—**BIG BOSSMAN**  
(11) 348, Cobb County, GA
- 7—**DUSTY RHODES**  
(6) 302, Austin, TX

- 8—**JAKE ROBERTS**  
(10) 246, Stone Mountain, GA
- 9—**RANDY SAVAGE**  
(7) 245, Sarasota, FL
- 10—**BAD NEWS BROWN**  
(-) 280, New York, NY
- 11—**TED DIBIASE**  
(8) 247, Omaha, NB

- 12—**RICK MARTEL**  
(9) 236, Quebec, City, Quebec
- 13—**HACKSAW DUGGAN**  
(-) 280, Glens Falls, NY
- 14—**DINO BRAVO**  
(15) 256, Montreal, Quebec
- 15—**THE BARBARIAN**  
(13) 295, New York, NY

## AWA

- 1—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**  
(1) 248, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2—**NIKITA KOLOFF**  
(2) 275, Moscow, Russia
- 3—**THE TROOPER**  
(11) 243, Charlotte, NC

- 4—**D.J. PETERSON**  
(7) 245, St. Joseph, MO
- 5—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**  
(4) 310, Parris Island, SC
- 6—**COL. DeBEERS**  
(8) 248, Cape Town, S. Africa
- 7—**JOHN NORD**  
(5) 316, Bozeman, MT

- 8—**KOKINA MAXIMUS**  
(-) 340, Samoa
- 9—**BRAD RHEINGANS**  
(14) 248, Appleton, MN
- 10—**WAYNE BLOOM**  
(-) 266, Minneapolis, MN
- 11—**MIKE ENOS**  
(-) 252, Minneapolis, MN

- 12—**THE NIGHT STALKER**  
(-) 291, parts unknown
- 13—**THE RUSSIAN BRUTE**  
(13) 285, Moscow, Russia
- 14—**TOMMY JAMMER**  
(10) 265, St. Joseph, MO
- 15—**CURTIS HUGHES**  
(15) 308, Kansas City, KS

## MOST POPULAR

- 1—**THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR**  
Last month: No. 1 Most Popular
- 2—**HULK HOGAN**  
Last month: No. 2 Most Popular
- 3—**LEX LUGER**  
Last month: No. 3 Most Popular

- 4—**STING**  
Last month: No. 5 Most Popular
- 5—**DUSTY RHODES**  
Last month: No. 4 Most Popular
- 6—**BIG BOSSMAN**  
Last month: No. 7 Most Popular
- 7—**NORMAN**  
Last month: No. 6 Most Popular

- 8—**TUGBOAT**  
Last month: unrated
- 9—**SCOTTY THE BODY**  
Last month: unrated
- 10—**KERRY VON ERICH**  
Last month: No. 11 Most Popular
- 11—**JUNKYARD DOG**  
Last month: unrated

- 12—**JAKE ROBERTS**  
Last month: No. 8 Most Popular
- 13—**BRIAN PILLMAN**  
Last month: No. 10 Most Popular
- 14—**BRUTUS BEEFCAKE**  
Last month: No. 13 Most Popular
- 15—**NIKITA KOLOFF**  
Last month: unrated

## MOST HATED

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**  
Last month: No. 1 Most Hated
- 2—**CURT HENNIG**  
Last month: No. 5 Most Hated
- 3—**BARRY WINDHAM**  
Last month: unrated

- 4—**EARTHQUAKE**  
Last month: No. 2 Most Hated
- 5—**RICK RUDE**  
Last month: No. 3 Most Hated
- 6—**JERRY LAWLER**  
Last month: No. 4 Most Hated
- 7—**RICK MARTEL**  
Last month: No. 6 Most Hated

- 8—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**  
Last month: No. 11 Most Hated
- 9—**BILLY JACK HAYNES**  
Last month: No. 10 Most Hated
- 10—**TED DIBIASE**  
Last month: No. 8 Most Hated
- 11—**MARK CALLOUS**  
Last month: No. 15 Most Hated

- 12—**RANDY SAVAGE**  
Last month: No. 12 Most Hated
- 13—**ARN ANDERSON**  
Last month: unrated
- 14—**BAD NEWS BROWN**  
Last month: No. 14 Most Hated
- 15—**TONY ATLAS**  
Last month: No. 13 Most Hated

## TAG TEAMS

- 1—**DEMOLITION**  
(2) WWF World tag team champions
- 2—**DOOM**  
(4) NWA World tag team champions
- 3—**RICK & SCOTT STEINER**  
(1) No. 1 contenders: NWA tag title
- 4—**THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS**  
(12) U.S. tag team champions
- 5—**THE HART FOUNDATION**  
(6) No. 1 contenders: WWF tag title

- 6—**MIKE ENOS & WAYNE BLOOM**  
(8) AWA World tag team champions
- 7—**THE ROAD WARRIORS**  
(5) No. 2 contenders: NWA tag title
- 8—**THE ROCKERS**  
(7) No. 2 contenders: WWF tag title
- 9—**REX KING & STEVE DOLL**  
(9) USWA tag team champions
- 10—**RICKY SANTANA & CURTIS THOMPSON**  
(-) PNW tag team champions

- 11—**THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS**  
(13) No. 1 contenders: U.S. tag title
- 12—**THE BUSHWHACKERS**  
(14) No. 4 contenders: WWF tag title
- 13—**MICHAEL HAYES & JIM GARVIN**  
(-) No. 2 contenders: U.S. tag title
- 14—**THE ORIENT EXPRESS**  
(11) No. 3 contenders: WWF tag title
- 15—**GREG VALENTINE & HONKY TONK MAN**  
(15) No. 5 contenders: WWF tag title



These ratings are compiled by the editors with the assistance of promoters, wrestlers, and reporters around the country, and are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler. The number in parentheses indicates a wrestler's position in that category last issue; (-) indicates that the wrestler was not rated in that category last issue ... "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices ... Championships marked with asterisks on the "Roll Call of Champions" indicate title changes that have taken place since our previous issue ... The information under the championship listing indicates the date that champion won the title, who the former champion was, and where the match took place.

For period ended June 1, 1990

# ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS

## ALL-JAPAN ASIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT

(most recently held by Tiger Mask & Kenta Kobashi)

## ALL-JAPAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: JUMBO TSURUTA

(October 11, 1989; from Genichiro Tenryu; Yokohama, Japan)

## ALL-JAPAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: STEVE WILLIAMS & TERRY GORDY

(March 6, 1990; from Stan Hansen & Genichiro Tenryu; Tokyo, Japan)

## ALL-JAPAN JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: MASANOBU FUCHI

(October 20, 1989; from Joe Malenko; Nagoya, Japan)

## ALL-JAPAN UNITED NATIONAL CHAMPION: JUMBO TSURUTA

(October 11, 1989; from Genichiro Tenryu; Yokohama, Japan)

## ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: MITSUKO NISHIWAKI

(January 1, 1990; elimination final over Bull Nakano; Tokyo, Japan)

## ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S CHAMPION: MINAMI TOYOTA

(November 18, 1989; tournament final over Mika Takahashi; Tokyo, Japan)

## ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

AKIRA HOKUTO & SUZUKA MINAMI

(February 7, 1990; from Grizzly Iwamoto & Aja Kong; Osaka, Japan)

## AWA WORLD CHAMPION: LARRY ZBYSKO

(April 8, 1990; from Mr. Saito; St. Paul, MN)

## AWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE DESTRUCTION CREW

(October 1, 1989; tournament final over Greg Gagne & Paul Diamond; Rochester, MN)

## AWA WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPION: CANDI DEVINE

(December 6, 1989; tournament match over Judy Martin; Toronto, Ontario)

## \* GEORGIA ALL-STAR CHAMPION: NICK BUSICK

(May 17, 1990; tournament final over Mike Golden; Lawrenceville, GA)

## ICW CHAMPION: TONY ATLAS

(February 11, 1989; from Joe Savoldi; Presque Isle, ME)

## ICW TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE UNDERTAKERS

(March 31, 1990; tournament final over Phil Apollo & Eric Sbraccia; Charlton, MA)

## IWA WOMEN'S CHAMPION: MADUSA MICELI

(September 14, 1989; tournament final over Beastie; Kumamoto, Japan)

## IWGP CHAMPION: BIG VAN VADER

(August 10, 1989; from Riki Choshu; Tokyo, Japan)

## \* IWGP INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

THE GREAT MUTA & MASA CHONO

(April 27, 1990; from Mr. Saito & Shinya Hashimoto; Tokyo Bay, Japan)

## IWGP JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: THUNDER RIGER

(January 31, 1990; from Naoki Sano; Osaka, Japan)

## LPWA CHAMPION: SUSAN SEXTON

(by LPWA officials' decision)

## LPWA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

MISTY BLUE SIMMES & HEIDI LEE MORGAN

(March 13, 1990; tournament final over Bad Girl & Black Venus; Laughlin, NV)

## NWA TV CHAMPION: ARN ANDERSON

(January 2, 1990; from The Great Muta; Gainesville, GA)

## NWA WORLD CHAMPION: RIC FLAIR

(May 7, 1989; from Rick Steamboat; Nashville, TN)

## \* NWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: DOOM

(May 19, 1990; from Rick & Scott Steiner; Washington, D.C.)

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT

(most recently held by Scott Norton)

## \* PACIFIC NORTHWEST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

CURTIS THOMPSON & RICKY SANTANA

(May 12, 1990; tournament final over Beetlejuice & Big Juice; Portland, OR)

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST TV CHAMPION: SCOTTY THE BODY

(March 17, 1990; from Ricky Santana; Portland, OR)

## PACIFIC WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION: JUMBO TSURUTA

(October 11, 1989; from Genichiro Tenryu; Yokohama, Japan)

## PACIFIC WRESTLING FEDERATION INT'L TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

STEVE WILLIAMS & TERRY GORDY

(April 9, 1990; from Genichiro Tenryu & Stan Hansen; Tokyo, Japan)

## PWF (FLORIDA) CHAMPION: STEVE KEIRN

(July 9, 1989; from Kendall Windham; Orlando, FL)

## \* PWF (FLORIDA) TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: MIKE GRAHAM & JOE GOMEZ

(May 8, 1990; from Robert Fuller & Kendall Windham; Tampa, FL)

## \* PWF (FLORIDA) LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: LOU PEREZ

(May 29, 1990; from Jim Backlund; Tampa, FL)

## U.S. CHAMPION: LEX LUGER

(May 22, 1989; from Michael Hayes; Bluefield, WV)

## \* U.S. TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS

(May 19, 1990; from Brian Pillman & Tom Zenk; Washington, D.C.)

## \* USWA CHAMPION: JERRY LAWLER

(May 5, 1990; from Jimmy Valiant; Memphis, TN)

## \* USWA SOUTHWESTERN CHAMPION: BILL DUNDEE

(May 18, 1990; from John Tatum; Dallas, TX)

## \* USWA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: REX KING & STEVE DOLL

(May 21, 1990; from Brickhouse Brown & Sweet Daddy Falcone; Memphis, TN)

## \* USWA TEXAS CHAMPION: MATT BORNE

(May 25, 1990; from Kerry Von Erich; Dallas, TX)

## \* WWC CARIBBEAN CHAMPION: INVADER I

(May 19, 1990; from Leo Burke; Carolina, Puerto Rico)

## WWC CARIBBEAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

CHICKY STARR & LEO BURKE

(March 28, 1990; from Invaders I & IV; San Juan, Puerto Rico)

## WWC JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: HURRICANE CASTILLO

(April 21, 1990; from Eddie Watts; Bayamon, Puerto Rico)

## WWC PUERTO RICAN CHAMPION: MANNY FERNANDEZ

(January 13, 1990; from Invader I; Bayamon, Puerto Rico)

## WWC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE SUPER MEDICS

(March 31, 1990; from The Mercenaries; San Juan, Puerto Rico)

## WWC UNIVERSAL CHAMPION: CARLOS COLON

(March 31, 1990; from Abdullah the Butcher; San Juan, Puerto Rico)

## WWC WOMEN'S CHAMPION: WENDI RICHTER

(July 28, 1987; from Monster Ripper; Trinidad, West Indies)

## WWF INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION: CURT HENNIG

(April 23, 1990; tournament final over Tito Santana; Austin, TX)

## WWF WORLD CHAMPION: THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR

(April 1, 1990; from Hulk Hogan; Toronto, Ontario)

## WWF WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: DEMOLITION

(April 1, 1990; from Andre the Giant & Haku; Toronto, Ontario)

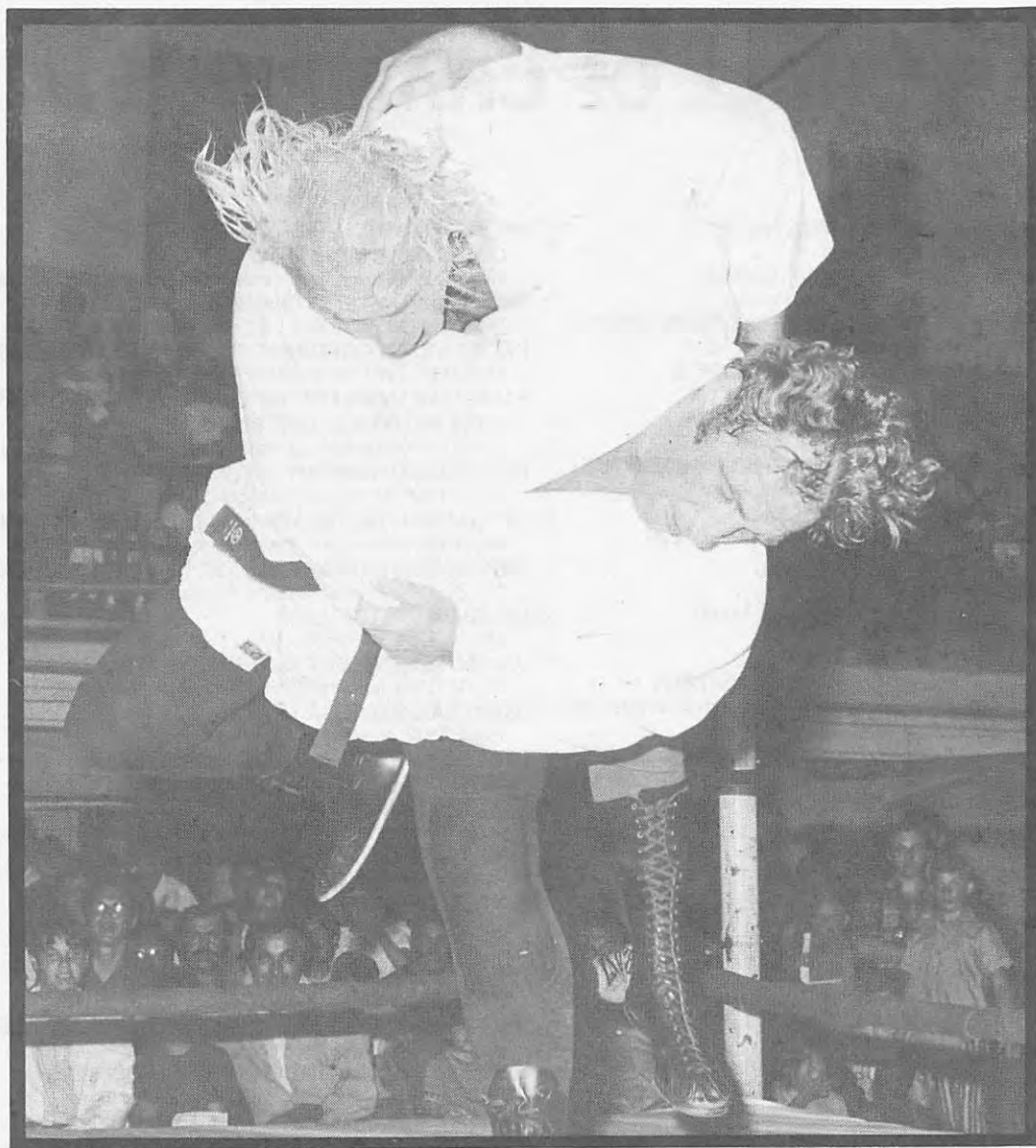
## WWF WOMEN'S CHAMPION: ROCKIN' ROBIN

(October 7, 1988; from Sherri Martel; Paris, France)

# ***Blast From The Past***

## ***This Month In Wrestling History***

### **“MARTIAL ARTS MAYHEM”**



### **SUPERSTAR GRAHAM vs. GENE LeBELL**

**July 1972**

For months, “Superstar” Billy Graham had taunted veteran star “Judo” Gene LeBell about his prowess in the martial arts. LeBell was essentially retired by 1972, but he wasn’t about to let Graham get away with belittling his famed karate and judo abilities. LeBell challenged Graham to to a “judo jacket match” at Los Angeles’ Olympic Auditorium. LeBell dominated the event, using his Oriental fighting skills to keep Graham on the defensive. Sensing defeat, Graham went berserk, choking LeBell with his robe and earning a disqualification from referee Johnny “Red Shoes” Dugan. Maybe not so ironically, Graham would adopt a new martial arts-based ring style seven years later.



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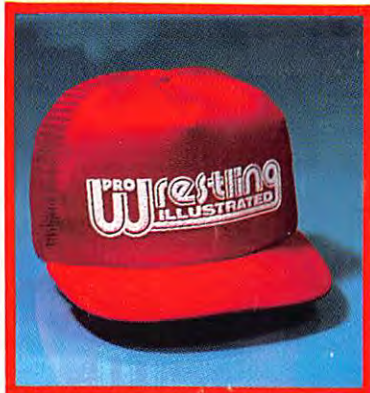
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